



Daily Report

East Asia

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Linkage of Workers Rights With WTO Criticized

*OW2107183594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1524 GMT
21 Jul 94*

[By Siti Rahil Dollah]

[Text] Bangkok, July 21 KYODO—The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is concerned by the attempts of Western industrial countries to link workers' rights with the World Trade Organization (WTO), according to a confidential document.

A final draft joint communique to be adopted by ASEAN foreign ministers at the end of their annual meeting Saturday [23 July] said such issues should be handled only by the International Labor Organization (ILO).

A copy of the joint communique, obtained by Kyodo News Service, said even the ILO should "support flexible and fair implementation of labor standards considering the needs of developing countries."

The document said the linking of workers' rights, labor standards and environmental issues to trade "could become a new pretext for protectionism and could undermine the progress achieved so far in the liberalization of world trade."

It also reiterated the "grave concern" recently expressed by ASEAN labor ministers that attempts by some developed countries to introduce social clauses into international trade agreements "would restrict market access and adversely affect employment opportunities of workers in developing countries."

It also said ASEAN foreign ministers have given full support to Singapore's bid to host the first ministerial conference of the WTO.

It said, "The ministers reaffirmed their strong support for Singapore's offer to host the first ministerial review conference of the WTO."

This is the first time that ASEAN as a group has officially and publicly pledged support for Singapore's bid.

The pro-Singapore stance means that ASEAN is against the U.S. attempt to block Singapore's bid to host the WTO meeting in retaliation for the caning of American teenager Michael Fay.

The copy of the joint communique, obtained at the end of the meeting of senior ASEAN officials preparing for the ministerial meeting, also expressed strong support for Thailand's bid to chair the WTO's committee on agriculture.

Touching briefly on ASEAN's controversial plan for an East Asian economic caucus (EAEC), the document "noted the progress made in the consultations to launch the EAEC with potential members," which include Japan, China and South Korea.

It "welcomed their valuable inputs" and "agreed that these consultations should continue."

ASEAN's plan for the EAEC has so far been hindered by the reluctance of Japan, a key potential member, to join. Efforts to draw in Japan have so far proved futile due to U.S. opposition to the EAEC, but ASEAN foreign ministers plan to have further talks with their Japanese counterpart, Yohei Kono, during the ASEAN meeting in Bangkok next week.

On the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, the document said APEC needs "to take into account the different levels of economic development among APEC member economies to sustain healthy economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region."

It urged APEC to focus on areas that would enhance intra-regional trade and investment and promote human resource development.

It said APEC should also pay more attention to developing small and medium-scale enterprises, enhancing the role of the private sector and promoting transfer of technology and management skills.

The document hailed the establishment of the APEC "business volunteer program" to promote human resource development, saying it would benefit developing countries in the region.

The document also expressed full support for a speedy realization of the ASEAN free trade area so as to maintain ASEAN's economic relevance and attract foreign investors following the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of global trade talks.

Ali Alatas Arrives for Ministerial Meeting

*BK2007142894 Bangkok Thai Color Television
Channel 9 in Thai 1200 GMT 20 Jul 94*

[Text] The foreign ministers of the ASEAN countries have started arriving in Bangkok. They include Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas. The Indonesian foreign minister thanked the Thai Government for not supporting the conference of human rights groups, which could have expressed very aggressive views on the question of East Timor.

The ASEAN foreign ministers meeting will officially begin on 22 July.

PRC: ARF Should Discuss South China Sea

*BK2207095694 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Jul 94 p A2*

[Excerpt] China said yesterday the dispute in the South China Sea should be discussed through bilateral talks under the framework of the Asean Regional Forum (ARF) which is scheduled for Monday.

Chinese foreign affairs spokesman Sheng Guofang reaffirmed that Beijing wants dialogue to avoid any confrontation over the oil-rich Spratly Islands.

"All parties will benefit if we can start joint exploration of ways of cooperation," he told reporters.

Sheng did not directly respond to a question whether China would object to any of the participants in the ARF raising the dispute during the meeting. "We hope it will be resolved through peaceful bilateral negotiations," he said.

He also reiterated Beijing's proposal to shelve jurisdiction claims by contending parties and discuss joint cooperation in that area and reaffirmed China's support for the principles of the Manila South China Sea Declaration which it signed in 1992 together with five other claimants, Vietnam, Taiwan, Philippines, Brunei and Malaysia.

China's conciliatory approach came as the Philippines was set to complain to Vietnam about its activities on the barren islands in the South China Sea.

The Philippines, angry that Hanoi has built lighthouses on a portion of the islands Manila has claimed, will raise its concerns in talks here between the two countries' foreign ministers, Foreign Minister Roberto Romulo said.

Romulo is due to meet Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam after the Asean ministerial meeting.

"It is my hope we will continue to discuss things multilaterally and not necessarily in a confrontational manner," he said.

Romulo said he favoured a settlement of the dispute on a bilateral basis but it should also be given a chance on the multilateral track. He said Manila also agreed to China's proposal for joint exploration on areas of overlapping claims.

Commenting on the ARF, the Chinese spokesman said China hoped the forum would lay the foundation for peace, security and development in the region.

He said the question of military transparency could be raised at the meeting. "This has to be consulted and discussed. This process will be gradual," he said.

Security analysts believe the competing claims could trigger an armed clash that could spark a war, although Asean said in 1992 that conflicting claims should be resolved by negotiations. [passage omitted]

PRC Rejects Bid for Taiwan To Join ARF

BK2207095394 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
22 Jul 94 p 6

[Text] The Chinese Foreign Minister yesterday rejected a suggestion from the United States to include Taiwan in a new Asia-Pacific security forum being inaugurated here on Monday.

"The ARF [ASEAN Regional Forum] cannot allow Taiwan to join," China's Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said after emerging from talks with Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, who will host the first meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum.

Squadron Leader Prasong reiterated Thailand's one-China policy which does not recognise Taiwan.

But Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo of the Philippines said there was a need to keep an open mind.

"Anyone who will impact the equilibrium in this part of the world in some way or another must be in a position to dialogue with the ARF," he said.

Comments followed a remark by US Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord from Washington on Tuesday that Taiwan's membership would have to be agreed to by consensus.

"I don't believe it's coming up this year (at the ARF), at least not officially. Maybe it will be discussed around the edges," he said.

Elaborating on China's position, Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Goufang told a press briefing yesterday: "The decision doesn't exist now. Nobody has proposed that."

"Moreover, all current participants are sovereign states," he said.

China and the US are participants in a gathering of 18 foreign ministers with an interest in the security of the Asia Pacific region.

Besides the six ASEAN hosts of the forum, Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, and the European Union are participating in the historic meeting. Russia, Vietnam, Laos, and Papua New Guinea are also invited.

ASEAN sources have indicated that the next ARF, expected to take place in Brunei, could bring more participants.

North Korea publicly stated in March its interest to join the ARF.

Taiwan's inclusion draws reservations from ASEAN states which are not embroiled in the South China sea dispute.

China, Taiwan, and Vietnam lay total claims over the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

Three ASEAN states—Brunei, Malaysia, and the Philippines—lay partial claim to parts of the islands located in a strategic sea lane and believed to hold deposits of hydrocarbons. Indonesia, Singapore, and Thailand are other ASEAN states.

There are also reservations about Taiwan's participation in the ARF from countries that do not want to be drawn into the Peking-Taipei conflict.

"Should ASEAN be used by either side in the dispute between China and Taiwan?" said one source.

An hour-long discussion between Foreign Minister Prasong and Mr Qian at the Thai foreign ministry yesterday covered the Thai proposal for ASEAN to set up a committee in Peking to strengthen ties between the grouping and China.

Mr Qian welcomed the idea of an ASEAN-Peking committee that would draw all heads of mission of the grouping into regular consultations with Chinese officials.

Under the Thai proposal—which requires endorsement from the ASEAN foreign ministers opening a two-day meeting today—ASEAN heads of mission in Peking would take turns at chairing the committee.

China's foreign ministry spokesman yesterday said Peking supported "principles" in the Declaration on the South China Sea which ASEAN Ministers produced in Manila in July 1992.

PRC Opposes U.S. Military Aid to Cambodia

BK2207093094 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
22 Jul 94 p 6

[Text] China yesterday opposed the US proposal to consider military aid to Cambodia, saying this would not be conducive to peace and stability in the region.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang confirmed his country's opposition to the proposal raised by US Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord at a press conference yesterday.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen will hold talks today with Cambodian Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut.

Peking believes the different Cambodian factions should be left to their own devices in resolving their conflict under the leadership of King Norodom Sihanouk, the spokesman said.

"As long as there's no outside interference, we believe the Cambodian parties can solve the problem themselves," he said.

"We don't challenge any development in the relationship between foreign countries and Cambodia. But we don't think that military aid will be conducive to peace and stability in the region."

Sirivut: Cambodia Eager To Join ASEAN

BK2207094894 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Jul 94 p A2

[Text] Cambodian Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut said yesterday his country wants to join Asean as soon as possible.

The minister said that as the first stage, Cambodia would accede to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation, a foundation of the Asean forum.

Prince Ranariddh was speaking on arrival at Don Muang yesterday to participate in the Asean meeting as a guest of the regional body.

"Cambodia is part of the region, so it should join the region's forum," Sirivut said.

Cambodia's King Norodom Sihanouk declared earlier that Cambodia should be a neutral country in the region and would only consider joining Asean if its former arch rival, Vietnam, became a full member.

Papua New Guinea's Foreign Minister Sir Julius Chan said being in the South Pacific instead of Southeast Asia has its strong points. [sentence as published]

He said he understands why there may be resistance to a South Pacific country like Papua New Guinea, becoming a full member of Asean. He noted that his country has had Asean observer status since 1981.

"I can understand that. At the same time there are advantages to Asean and the South Pacific in being where we are because we are right in the centre. We are the focal point of these two regions," he said.

Chan said his country is "very happy with the current status" as an observer in Asean.

"Unless we feel that we can constructively contribute to the furtherance of Asean I think we are happy where we are."

Asked whether Papua New Guinea would apply for Asean membership he said: "I don't see much cause for a hurry to change the relationship, not for the time being. But if Asean members insist that we should become a full member then we would give it consideration at that time."

Burma on Intention To Talk With Butrus-Ghali

BK2207094594 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Jul 94 pp A1, A4

[Text] The Burmese military junta yesterday announced its intention to engage in dialogue with UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali towards democratization, national reconciliation and improvement of human rights in Burma.

The message was conveyed by visiting Burmese Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw to Thai Foreign Minister Prasong

Sunsiri, who had been "specially requested" by Butrus-Ghali to ask for a reply from Rangoon to the UN proposal for dialogue.

Prasong announced last night that Ohn Gyaw told him during the working lunch that the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc) had authorized him "to engage in dialogue on various issues with the UN secretary-general or his representative."

The Thai minister said he would quickly inform Butrus-Ghali of the Slorc's decision.

U Ohn Gyaw, who arrived here Tuesday for a full five-day visit as guest of Thailand to the July 22-23 Asean Ministerial Meeting, is also working out a meeting with Raffiudeen Ahmad, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission in Asia and the Pacific, to inform him of Slorc's decision and to work out the "modality and agenda" of the UN-Slorc meeting.

As Ahmad is away from Bangkok, Ohn Gyaw will consult with a representative of the UN Development Programme (UNDP), according to Foreign Ministry Spokesman Suwit Simasakun. U Nay Tun, UNDP deputy administrator, will arrive in Bangkok shortly and is expected to meet with Ohn Gyaw.

The UN General Assembly last December 20 passed, by consensus the 48/150 UN Resolution, voicing its "grave concern" over several issues in Burma, including "the continued violations of human rights", the Slorc's refusal to recognize the results of the 1990 general elections, the confinement of political prisoners including 1991 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, and the lack of democratic political reform.

It has called on Butrus-Ghali to find means for the improvement of human rights conditions, progress in the democratization process, release of political prisoners including Aung San Suu Kyi, and national reconciliation.

"(The General Assembly) requests the secretary-general to assist in the implementation of the present resolution and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session," the UN resolution stated.

Raffiudeen Ahmad travelled to Rangoon in March where he conveyed to Slorc leader Lt Gen Khin Nyunt the proposal by Butrus-Ghali for bilateral UN-Slorc dialogue aimed at achieving the UN resolutions.

The Slorc's silence had prompted Butrus-Ghali to write a letter recently to Prasong requesting him to take the opportunity of Ohn Gyaw's visit here to sound out Slorc's response to the UN proposal.

Prasong said yesterday "it is a very good thing" that Slorc had decided to engage in talks with the UN chief and that he believed the dialogue would help bring about progress on political and human rights issues in Burma.

He said he believed the dialogue would give Burma an opportunity to listen to the opinions of the UN secretary-general.

Burma "is currently working on political and economic reform, and its decision to enter dialogue indicates that it wants its political, economic and social affairs to be accepted in the future by the international community," Prasong said.

Asked if the Slorc-UN dialogue would lead to the release of Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, Prasong quoted Ohn Gyaw as saying that the Slorc has proposed that Suu Kyi go into exile for five years. She would be allowed back into Burma unconditionally after that and could engage in Burmese politics after the promulgation of a new constitution.

Ohn Gyaw informed Prasong that Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest since July 1989 without being charged or tried in court, had not yet responded to the Burmese junta's new proposal for her freedom. The proposal was delivered to her during the visit of US Congressman Bill Richardson.

Lt Gen Khin Nyunt, the first secretary of Burma's ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc), has said this week in an exclusive interview with the Yomiuri newspaper that after a five-year exile, "I'd be happy to welcome her back if she returned home and worked for the sake of the nation. When the time is ripe, I want to hold talks with her with no conditions attached."

Several senior Foreign Ministry officials told The Nation they believe the Slorc "is sincere" in its decision to enter talks with the UN chief and that the dialogue would be a step towards the improvement of the situation in Burma.

Singapore Supports Vietnam's ASEAN Membership

BK2207042694 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Singapore strongly supports Vietnam's membership of ASEAN. Foreign Minister Professor S. Jayakumar hopes this will be possible at the earliest opportunity. He said this after bilateral talks in Bangkok with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Manh Cam.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Manh Cam said other ASEAN members also support the admission of his country into the regional group. On the question of timing, he said it is necessary to have further discussions in order to identify a suitable time.

Lao Foreign Minister: Preparation Time Needed

BK2207090894 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Jul 94 p A2

[By Kulachada Chaiphiphath and Rita Phaetyasewi]

[Text] Laos still needs time to prepare in order to become an Asean member, Laotian Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat said yesterday.

However at this stage, the country would, be able to join functional committees on the environment, science and technology, drug control and cultural and communications, Somsavat said.

Laos will attend the annual Asean meeting this year for the third time. The Lao minister will for the first time be given the opportunity to address today's opening session of the Asean Meeting.

"I expect after this meeting our activity with Asean will be more hectic," Somsavat said.

The minister welcomed the fact that Vietnam will become an Asean member before Laos. "We are encouraged that Vietnam will join Asean very soon," he said.

He said Vietnam has more human resources and has better economic conditions than Laos.

Vietnam and Laos obtained Asean observer status in 1992 but the latter has showed readiness to join the grouping as a full member. Laos has indicated that it would rather wait to see if Cambodia wants to accede to the Treaty of Amity. "We are in the same tropical zone. But fruits does not always ripen at the same time," Somsavat said.

He said human resources and financial constraints were major obstacles to become a member. "English language is also a problem," said the minister.

"There are hundreds of committees and this will require a major effort on our part," he said.

Somsavat urged Asean countries to help train personnel so that his country would be able to join the club as a member. "We need Asean's help," he said.

The minister said Laos will consult Asean on how to become a member and discuss areas of early cooperation.

Somsavat had met with Filipino Foreign Minister Roberto Romulo in Vientiane during the latter's visit to Laos earlier this week.

"Laos is very realistic," Romulo told the press after arriving today.

He said Laos does not fully understand the workings of Asean yet. "They have to train staff and be a little more comfortable with that before they pursue membership.

"The new economic system is emerging but can't quite be described as a free market just yet," he said.

Australian Envoy Discusses Expectations for ARF
BK2207090394 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Jul 94 p A8

[By Kulachada Chaiphihat and Klomchit Chanthrapanya]

[Text] Australia hopes that through the embryonic Asean Regional Forum (ARF), which will make its debut next week, the diverse Asia Pacific region will be able to develop a more concerted regional security framework, Ambassador to Thailand John McCarthy said.

In an interview with THE NATION, McCarthy said he expected differences over the speed at which this process could move but he expressed hope that in the next couple of years regional countries could address issues in a more collective manner.

"The first endeavour will probably be a modest one but it could generate a good push for the future," the ambassador said.

He suggested that initially the ARF be developed as a consistent crisscross link between Asean and its seven dialogue countries under the Post Ministerial Conference (PMC).

Asean and its non-member counterparts to the security forum have agreed that the ARF meeting will be a free-flowing discussion of broad security issues.

The three-hour meeting will be convened on Monday, sandwiched between sessions of the Asean foreign ministers' meeting and the follow up discussions with dialogue countries. Ministers can pursue issues raised in the ARF at a subsequent dinner and during the PMC sessions.

McCarthy said his government does not expect a startling breakthrough at the first meeting but hopes a broad consensus can be built around preventive diplomacy and confidence building measures, the two prepared themes for ARF discussion.

"We would like to have a decision being made which will involve an amount of intersectoral work, take us down the track and arrive at preventative diplomacy, transparency and trust-building," the ambassador said.

Australia was Asean's first dialogue country and was active in helping to lay the framework for the ARF. It submitted last year a discussion paper concerning how to structure the ARF and proposed another non-paper on Trust-Building Measures which was later adopted as part of the ARF discussion papers.

Last year, the country also stated its intent to join Asean's 1976 treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South-east Asia.

McCarthy said the search for a form of accession to the treaty is underway but he did not expect Asean to settle the question soon.

Some Asean states are wary about extending the treaty for fear it would expose Southeast Asian countries to external interference.

The treaty provides a code of conduct for relations among countries in Southeast Asia but not a mechanism to settle disputes. At the Asean Fourth Summit in Singapore in 1992, Asean leaders discussed opening membership to the treaty to non-Southeast Asian members.

"We see the nature of the treaty in the direction of regional security and confidence-building measures," the ambassador said.

Asked to comment on the invitation of Burma at the Asean meetings, the ambassador said he hoped Asean could extract concessions from the military government and "not give something for nothing."

Expressing what he said was his own point of view, he said there was no clear distinction between Asean and the West in the approach to human rights.

"I don't see two blocs but rather different shades of opinions," he said.

Malaysia's Badawi on Need To Decide on EAEC

BK2207041994 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said in Bangkok today that the ASEAN foreign ministers annual meeting scheduled to begin tomorrow must make several decisions relating to the formation of the East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC. He expressed the hope that the two-day meeting will achieve some kind of agreement to reflect the ASEAN foreign ministers' commitment to the proposed EAEC to its future members such as Japan, South Korea, and China.

The EAEC, mooted by Malaysia, was intended to be a loose consultative organization to hold negotiations to enhance economic cooperation among East Asian countries and to expedite economic development in the region.

Datuk Abdullah told newsmen that he will take the opportunity to discuss the EAEC and the future membership of ASEAN at the upcoming meeting.

Regarding Burma, he said that the ASEAN foreign ministers will not hold a joint meeting with the Burmese foreign minister. But discussions may be held on an individual country basis. ASEAN will take constructive measures during the discussions with Burma, he added.

ASEAN Ministers Meet Thai Prime Minister

BK2207035194 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 9 in Thai 1200 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Foreign ministers of ASEAN and Indochinese countries and dialogue partners are now in Bangkok to

attend the annual ASEAN conference. They paid a courtesy call on the prime minister today. First to make the call was Qian Qichen, Chinese vice prime minister and foreign minister, who will participate in the meeting on security in the ASEAN region. The prime minister and the Chinese official discussed the good relations between their countries, particularly the economy in the Mekong River basin, which China feels is an underdeveloped area but one which contains many important natural resources.

Next to call on the prime minister was Russian Federation Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev. He said Russia gives priority to the inaugural discussion on regional security. He said that participating in a meeting with ASEAN countries will provide a useful opportunity for Russia. Kozyrev said he welcomes an opportunity to exchange views. He said Russia feels that greater cooperation between Indochinese countries and ASEAN will enhance the potential for national development of the Indochinese countries. As part of Asia, Russia wants to play an important role in this region.

After that, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri accompanied the foreign ministers of other ASEAN countries and the ASEAN secretary general as they called on the prime minister. The prime minister expressed his thanks for the cooperation among the ASEAN countries to date. He hopes that such cooperation will continue, particularly in the international trade arena. The ASEAN foreign ministers expressed the common view that the upcoming ASEAN foreign ministers meeting will be very significant and that important joint agreements will be achieved.

The prime minister also conferred royal decorations on the ASEAN foreign ministers and the secretary general. The recipients are grateful for the king's kindness.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting Opens 22 Jul

BK2207124594 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] The 27th meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers, hosted by Thailand from 22 to 27 July, opened at the Shangri-la Hotel in Bangkok this morning. Representatives from more than 10 countries, including ASEAN members, attend the meeting. Prime Minister Chuan Likphai presided over the opening ceremony. In his opening speech, the prime minister called on ASEAN member countries to pay more attention to fostering social and human cooperation, to the development of human resources through better education, to the eradication of poverty, and to effective employment.

The prime minister mentioned cooperation in the implementation of the ASEAN Free Trade Area scheme and noted that ASEAN presently has registered successes both in terms of economy and politics, which can be attributed to cooperation, understanding, and increasing confidence in the Southeast Asian region. During the important turning point amid the great changes of the

world in the post-cold war era, the Southeast Asian region has witnessed peace and unprecedented economic prosperity and progress. These are the result of the reduction of conflicts and endeavors to create stability and prosperity in the region. Therefore, ASEAN regards it an important task to make joint efforts to create an environment of peace and mutual assistance in the region while coordinating with the world outside to play a role and participate in the establishment of the economic order or a framework that is conducive to free trade in ASEAN. ASEAN's further economic prosperity and progress rely on economic relations and cooperation among the countries in the region so the ASEAN Free Trade Area scheme can be put into practice.

Regarding conflicts over territories and natural resources among countries in the region, the prime minister said the problem should be solved through diplomatic means while confrontation must be avoided.

The prime minister concluded his address by expressing his gratitude to participants of the meeting for their contribution to making ASEAN's vision of peace, progress, and prosperity of all Southeast Asian nations a reliable dream. He stressed that the time has come for all of us to collectively rekindle ASEAN's spirit, promote ASEAN's identity, and strengthen the ASEAN community.

Thai Minister Addresses Opening

BK2207133094 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Thailand is hosting the 27th meeting of the ASEAN foreign ministers at the Shangrila Hotel, Bangkok. Participants are foreign ministers of the ASEAN countries: Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand; foreign ministers of the observer countries: Papua New Guinea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; as well as foreign ministers of the dialogue partner countries: the PRC and Russia Federation; and foreign ministers of the countries which are guests of ASEAN—Cambodia and Burma—which are here as Thailand's special guests to attend the opening and closing ceremonies. Altogether the delegations consist of about 1,000 officials.

Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri delivered an address opening the meeting. He welcomed Burmese Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw, who is a guest at the ongoing ASEAN meeting. He said the presence of the Burmese foreign minister shows that in the future Burma will become an ally of ASEAN and will soon join the Indochinese countries, such as Vietnam, in being accepted as an ASEAN member. Thailand supports this matter.

Prasong said Cambodia's acceleration of its national construction is worthy of attention. Thailand wishes to

see peace and stability in that country. Thailand condemns the recent establishment of the provisional government by the Khmer Rouge because it does not benefit peace in Cambodia in any way.

Prasong said although the national defense spending has decreased in the world, Thailand is very concerned about arms buildup in Asia and the Pacific. However, it is gratifying that the every ASEAN country will join the UN arms registry, which will result in openness in spending for arms.

Prasong said ASEAN has political determination in its creation of the ASEAN Free Trade Area. Economic disputes exist among the superpowers; therefore, it is necessary to coordinate industrial planning to ensure circulation of capital, raw materials, and industrial products in the ASEAN region. All of this will create a production base and draw foreign investment to the region.

Thai, Burmese Ministers Comment

BK2207140294 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan spoke with journalists after the morning session of the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting regarding the ASEAN stand on holding a constructive relationship with Burma and the disagreement over this stand by some Western countries. He said the invitation to Burma to the ASEAN meeting as a guest is aimed at changing the undesirable attitude several countries have toward Burma.

Surin said UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali has asked Thailand to approach Burma to allow a UN delegation to come to Burma to discuss the issues of concern with that country. For this reason, ASEAN feels that achieving a constructive relationship with Burma is the correct stand. Surin said: Allied countries understand what we are doing. In principle, some countries may disagree with this stand, but they have not made strong criticisms.

Surin said it is not the decision of Thailand, but of ASEAN, to invite Burma as guest. The decision is the result of a consensus which specifies that the Burmese delegation will come as guest of the host country. He said Thailand is ready to serve as the middleman in negotiations with Burma.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw said Burma will engage in dialogue with the outside world when it is ready. The current problem is that Burma could not meet with the European Union delegation in a discussion on security in Asia and the Pacific because he will have to return to his country on 25 July. A new date and venue will have to be set up.

Malaysia's Badawi Addresses Meeting

BK2207095094 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] The entire Southeast Asia must be converted into an ASEAN sub-region by the first decade of the 21st century. Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said this must be made a part of the ASEAN strategy to include its membership to 10. The proposed new members are Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar [Burma].

He said increasing the membership of the grouping to include all Southeast Asian nations was not only logical but will also shares the strategic interests of all Southeast Asian countries.

He said this at the opening session of the 27th ASEAN ministerial meeting in Bangkok. Datuk Abdullah also touched on a variety of issues, including the ASEAN Regional Forum, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and security aspect. On security, he said regional countries must increase linkages in trade, investment, tourism, and labor flow.

On the East Asia Economic Caucus, [EAEC] the minister emphasized the need for ASEAN to provide its continued and undivided support that should be taken at the meeting to ensure the launching of EAEC as soon as possible.

On APEC, Datuk Abdullah cautioned ASEAN members to be wary of the way APEC is progressing. Suggestions that it should be turned into a Pacific economic community should be looked into carefully.

Japan

Issues on U.S.-Japan Trade, Base Reported

Ministers on Procurement Talks

OW2207032594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0309 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—Trade Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Friday [22 July] he and three other key cabinet ministers have agreed to maximize efforts to settle the government procurement dispute with the United States.

International Trade and Industry Minister Hashimoto was briefing reporters on Thursday's meeting between the four cabinet ministers and Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama at his official residence. The three other ministers present at the meeting were foreign minister Yohei Kono, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura and Economic Planning Agency Chief Masahiko Komura.

The prime minister told the four ministers to do their utmost to settle the government procurement issue, one of the three priority areas in the bilateral framework talks, before Washington's July 31 deadline, Hashimoto said.

The U.S. has said it may impose trade sanctions against Japan if no solution is found by the deadline and the U.S. Trade Representative's Office has launched a formal probe into whether Japan has discriminated against U.S. firms in government procurement of telecommunications and medical equipment.

Washington has the power to enact trade sanctions under Title VII of the 1988 Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act which pertains to fairness in awarding government contracts.

Trade officials from Japan and the U.S. are scheduled to meet in Hong Kong Saturday to try to solve the dispute before the July 31 deadline.

Hashimoto renewed his concern over the recent upsurge in the yen's value against the dollar. "We are very nervous about possible negative effects of the strong yen on corporations, especially small companies, at a time when the economy is beginning to recover," Hashimoto said. "We could not be said to be too sensitive in monitoring developments in currency markets," Hashimoto said.

'Political Settlement' Sought

OW2107161394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1513 GMT
21 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Japan will seek to bring government procurement issues with the United States to a "political settlement" by the end of the month at

subcabinet-level framework trade talks, scheduled for Saturday [23 July] in Hong Kong, a government official said Thursday.

This is based on instructions given earlier in the day by Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama when he met Foreign Minister Yohei Kono and two other cabinet ministers at his official residence, the official said.

The Hong Kong meeting was scheduled ahead of a July 31 deadline set by Washington for possible trade sanctions against Japan over U.S. access to Japanese procurement of telecommunications and medical equipment.

The official said the talks will be attended by Sadayuki Hayashi, Japan's deputy foreign minister for economic affairs, and Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, who will make a stopover in Hong Kong en route to Jakarta from Beijing.

The U.S. could launch a 60-day review on possible sanctions against Japan over government procurement if the July 31 deadline is not met.

Tokyo and Washington have been at odds over "objective criteria" sought by the U.S. to measure progress in widening U.S. access to government procurement of medical and telecommunications equipment.

The U.S. has been looking for a substantial increase in the foreign share of government purchases of such equipment, but Tokyo has rejected the demand as leading to managed trade.

Government procurement is one of the three areas discussed under the so-called framework talks aimed at rectifying the chronic bilateral trade imbalance.

U.S. Proposal on Glass Market

OW2207020894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0159 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Washington, July 21 KYODO—The United States has presented a new proposal on foreign access to Japan's sheet glass market at working-level sessions of the ongoing trade framework talks with Japan, sources close to the negotiations said Thursday [21 July].

The working-level sessions were held here Wednesday and Thursday. The sources said details of the new U.S. proposal are yet to be known. The U.S. has criticized the Japanese sheet glass market as an oligopoly dominated by Japanese "keiretsu" business groups that block new participation. The next session on sheet glass trade is expected to be held in Tokyo in August, the sources said.

Sheet glass is one area that U.S. could possibly impose section 301 of the 1988 trade act to retaliate against Japan if the two countries cannot reach an agreement by the end of September.

Fuji Film To Avert Penalty

OW2207034094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0244 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Washington, July 21 KYODO—Fuji Photo Film Co. of Japan has basically agreed to raise the prices on color photographic paper sold in the United States to head off looming penalty tariffs, industry sources said Thursday [22 July].

In return, the U.S. Commerce Department will withdraw its threat to impose antidumping duties on the company's products, the sources said. The Commerce Department decided in a preliminary ruling in March that Fuji Photo Film was selling photo paper below fair market value and it set antidumping levies at 360.95 percent.

The company will hold negotiations with the Commerce Department to determine the price hike before reaching a final agreement by Aug. 19, the deadline for a definite ruling.

Fuji Photo Film officials said the basic agreement "does not necessarily mean that the company has been dumping." The officials said what the commerce department offers in the negotiations will determine whether the company raises its prices.

Zushi Mayor Resigning

OW2207042694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0342 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Yokosuka, Japan, July 22 KYODO—The Mayor of Zushi, Kanagawa Prefecture, said Friday [22 July] she will resign over the decade-long, politically charged dispute about building U.S. military housing on a nature reserve in the city.

Mitsuyo Sawa told a city assembly committee that she will step down as soon as a compromise agreement over the issue is reached with the government.

Sawa, who was elected to office in November 1992 with a vow to oppose the project, said in may that she will accept the building of homes for U.S. military personnel on the former ammunition depot on the Ikego hills in the town.

She has asked Kanagawa Prefecture to mediate compromise negotiations with the government, making preservation of part of the area's forest a condition of accepting the project.

The negotiations have been delayed, however, because of strong resistance by critics of the project in the Zushi City Assembly.

Sawa's change of stance drew fire from city assembly members and environmentalists who oppose building the housing complex on the site, one of the few remaining green spaces in Zushi.

Kono May Attend ASEAN Luncheon in Bangkok

OW2107150794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1439 GMT
21 Jul 94

[Text] Bangkok, July 21 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Yohei Kono may attend a luncheon meeting Monday with the foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) if it is not intended to give a boost to the East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC), a Japanese Foreign Ministry source said Thursday [21 Jul].

The source said Japan will not participate in the EAEC scheme because of currently unfavorable Japan-U.S. economic relations and because the United States is against the EAEC.

The source also said there is no reason for Japan to refuse the ASEAN invitation to the Monday luncheon so long as the gathering deals with the world trade organization and other topics.

ASEAN has invited the foreign ministers of Japan, South Korea and China to attend the luncheon meeting to push forward their plan for the EAEC.

Tokyo Urges Iraq To Comply With UN Resolutions

OW2207063894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0554 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—Japan urged Iraq on Friday [22 July] to comply unconditionally with all resolutions passed by the United Nations during the 1991 Persian Gulf war.

The appeal was made when Iraqi special envoy Wissan Shawket Al-Zahawie [name as received] called on the head of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau, Takaya Sudo, seeking Japan's assistance in having the UN resolutions lifted, ministry officials said.

Zahawie told Sudo that the UN embargo on Iraqi oil exports should be lifted since Iraq has complied with the Security Council resolutions.

Sudo said that Japan's position was that Iraq needs to comply unconditionally with all of the resolutions, including Iraq's recognition of its border with Kuwait and Kuwaiti sovereignty, and the release of Kuwaiti prisoners. Sudo stressed that this has not yet been realized, the officials said.

Zahawie pointed out that the Iraqi National Assembly has decided to scrap its plans to annex Kuwait and denied that Baghdad is trying to suppress Iraq's Kurd and Shiite populations.

Sudo stressed that Baghdad should issue an official high-level announcement to international society recognizing Kuwaiti sovereignty, a measure it has not yet taken.

PRC Ignores Tokyo, Launches Apstar-1 Satellite

*OW2107144394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1414 GMT
21 Jul 94*

[Text] Beijing, July 21 KYODO—China launched its Apstar-1 telecommunications satellite on Thursday evening [21 Jul] despite a Japanese plea not to do so, Chinese state press reported.

Apstar-1, which has 24 transponders, is owned by the APT Satellite Co. Ltd., a Hong Kong-based international consortium which plans to offer satellite telecommunications services to the Asia-Pacific region.

It was successfully launched on a Long March 3 carrier rocket at 18:31 local time from the Xichang satellite launch center, XINHUA NEWS AGENCY reported.

An official at Japan's Posts and Telecommunications Ministry said the planned orbit of Apstar-1 could cause transmission interference with Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) CS 3A communications satellite, which relays radio beams to households in Japanese islands far away from coastal areas and for other civilian purposes. He said Japan sent a delegation to Beijing last week in an effort to get China to find another position for Apstar-1.

China hopes to place the satellite at a position 131 degrees east, between the CS 3A at 132 degrees east and the Russian Rimsat at 130 degrees east, the official said.

Apstar-1 will not interfere with Japan's satellite if it only transmits on four of its transponders, he added.

But APT has already reached an agreement to lease eight of the transponders of China Telecommunications Broadcast Satellite Corp. and is believed to be negotiating with major satellite television networks for other transponders.

Experts say it could take up to several weeks to verify that Apstar-1 has reached its planned geostationary orbit above the equator.

In launching the satellite China has also defied the internationally recognized rule of the Geneva-based, 182-nation UN watchdog, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), the officials said.

The ITU rule obligates member nations to secure consent from any country that has earlier placed a satellite in a certain orbit if it wants to put its own satellite in orbit nearby.

The ITU rule states that a country is allowed to register its satellite with the watchdog only after securing such consent.

Beijing is placing emphasis on expanding its transponder-leasing business to earn foreign currencies on the strength of its Long March rockets.

China's most recent attempt to launch a telecommunications satellite was in December 1992, when Australia's Optus B-2 exploded after separating from the carrier rocket.

A Chinese weather satellite also exploded after being launched in April, despite the Long March rocket's proven track record.

Apstar-1, APT's first satellite to be launched, was made by the U.S.-based Hughes Aircraft Corp. and is believed to be worth around 120 million dollars.

The company is made up of a group of investors from Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and Mainland China, company officials in Hong Kong said.

Lawyers Complain of Restrictions on Disputed Isles

*OW2107142994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1339 GMT
21 Jul 94*

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Japan's national lawyers group asked the Foreign Ministry on Thursday [21 Jul] not to repeat its alleged restrictions on media coverage by journalists who received visas from the former Soviet Union to visit Russian-held islands claimed by Japan.

"Such a practice may violate the freedom of the press and infringe the people's right to know," the Japan Federation of Bar Associations said in a letter of advice submitted to the ministry.

In April 1991, shortly before then Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev visited Japan, six newspaper and broadcasting companies sent personnel to the so-called Northern Territories off Japan's main northern island of Hokkaido with Soviet visas, the letter said.

In response, the Foreign Ministry asked the companies to refrain from interviewing ministry officials, saying that accepting Soviet visas to go to the islands means endorsing Soviet occupation of the area.

The ministry also said the government had asked Japanese citizens not to accept Soviet visas for a trip there, according to the lawyers group.

Mining Firms Encouraged To Be Active Abroad

*OW2207112994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1101 GMT
22 Jul 94*

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—A government advisory body proposed Friday [22 Jul] that Japan's mining firms promote mining development and smelting abroad as a way to improve their earnings.

The Mining Industry Council, an advisory body to the chief of the Natural Resources and Energy Agency, discussed how to turn around Japanese mining firms' profits which are deteriorating from severe business

conditions. The agency is a unit of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

To ensure a stable supply of mineral sources and curtail overall development costs, the industry should step up overseas mining, such as in Latin America and the Asia-Pacific region, the council said.

The industry should also activate smelting abroad in response to the recent rapid increase in overseas demand for nonferrous metals, particularly in Asia.

International prices of nonferrous metals such as copper, lead and zinc have been generally slack since 1990 although their prices picked up recently thanks to the U.S. economic recovery.

Domestic demand for nonferrous metals has continued sluggish, the council said.

Japanese miners' earnings have been also eroded further following the recent renewed surge in the yen's value against the dollar, the council said, noting they receive smelting revenues in dollar terms.

A planned reduction in tariffs on nonferrous products in line with the Uruguay Round global trade accord is likely to affect the Japanese mining industry negatively, the council said.

Murayama To Meet With ROK President on DPRK

OW2107160594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1501 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 21 KYODO—Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama will visit South Korea on Saturday [23 July] for a two-day visit to exchange opinions with South Korean President Kim Yong-sam on the state of affairs in North Korea, government sources said Thursday.

On Thursday evening, Murayama met Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, Foreign Ministry Councillor Hiroshi Fukuda and the ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau Director Yutaka Kawashima and other experts to iron out an agenda for discussion, they said. They agreed that North Korea would be top of the agenda, the officials said.

Murayama will propose to Kim that their two countries urge Pyongyang to resume U.S.-North Korean high-level talks, hold inter-Korean summit talks and open the country, they said.

The third round of U.S.-North Korean high-level talks were suspended after North Korean President Kim Il-song died unexpectedly July 8, and inter-Korean summit talks scheduled later this month were canceled.

Murayama will propose that the two countries ask North Korea to allay their suspicions that it may have developed nuclear arms and to resolve the issue through dialogue, they said.

Murayama will also tell Kim that his government will maintain the diplomatic policies of previous administrations, they said.

The premier will also express hope that the two countries will promote bilateral relations, with Japan keeping in mind its past invasion and colonization of the Korean peninsula, they said.

He is expected to express Japan's apologies and remorse for recent history and its determination not to repeat war, they said.

Budget-Drafting Process May be Revised for 1995

OW2207134194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1327 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—The government may change the procedure for drafting the budget for the next fiscal year to pave the way for each government ministry to request flexible funding allocations for its priority areas, officials told KYODO NEWS SERVICE Friday [22 Jul].

The government has hitherto set a unified ceiling on growth in investment-related budget requests as a first step in drafting the national budget.

But the officials said the government is now considering a flexible ceiling on growth in such funding requests for fiscal 1995 as the current budgetary ceiling system is now under fire from policy-makers in the ruling coalition.

The cabinet of Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama is expected to endorse the new system next Friday, while making it clear that it is ready to cut defense spending as well as personnel outlays, a spending category long viewed as untouchable, they said.

Setting a flexible ceiling would allow the government to set aside extensive funding allocations to politically sensitive areas such as agriculture, at a time when Japanese farmers are set to face tough competition from imports as a result of the new global free trade pact known as the Uruguay Round agreement.

The details of a flexible ceiling system are still subject to negotiation by the ruling coalition and Finance Ministry officials, the officials said.

Among the options being discussed is a ministry-by-ministry target ceiling within a certain range, such as between 2 and 8 percent, rather than setting a unified 5 percent, they said.

But in exchange for such a new ceiling system, the government will hammer out the fiscal 1995 budget in a "scrap-and-build manner" to trim recurring spending categories in order to save funds for priority areas, the officials said.

Among such priority areas are support for farmers to help them compete with imports, social security and construction of sophisticated telecommunications networks.

The cabinet usually closes the budgetary requests at the end of August, and the Finance Ministry drafts a budget blueprint by the end of the year on the basis of these funding requests.

Finance Ministry Opposed to Budget Ceilings

OW2207111594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1053 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—The Finance Ministry conveyed its opposition Friday [22 Jul] to allowing new special ceilings for the fiscal 1995 budget to Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, a ministry official said.

Senior ministry officials led by Vice Finance Minister Jiro Saito visited Murayama's official residence to explain the tough fiscal conditions and their basic stance on forming budget ceilings, obviously implying their opposition to special allocations, the official said.

Murayama instructed them to continue working on the ceilings in line with that basic stance, said the official who accompanied the visit.

Considering the timing, he said the ministry wants to establish the ceilings by the end of this month, as usual in other years.

The Finance Ministry imposes caps known as ceilings for budget requests to be made later by other ministries and agencies.

As for special ceilings allowing higher budget growth than the overall caps, the ministry has limited them to such items as defense and overseas assistance amid tough fiscal conditions in the past few years. But some ministers led by farming and construction are calling for special budget allocations for the next fiscal year.

Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura has also indicated his opposition to increasing the items for special ceilings.

Speaking to reporters after Friday's morning cabinet meeting, he reiterated, "one new special ceiling will lead to unlimited demand for others."

This must be avoided amid these tough fiscal conditions, he added.

But he left room for flexible budget allocations, saying the new coalition government wants a fresh policy, different from that of former governments.

"It should be on a scrap and build basis" with each ministry and agency to review its spending programs under a given budget framework.

Takemura confirmed the government and the ruling coalition parties are yet undecided on their policy for budget ceilings and will step up the discussions to bring them to a conclusion next week as the extraordinary Diet session ends Friday.

Kono Denies LDP-SDPJ Gaps on Constitution

OW2207061094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0532 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yohei Kono rejected opposition charges Friday [22 July] that the coalition government is plagued with a gulf between the conservative-dominated Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the Social Democratic Party (SDP) [Social Democratic Party of Japan—SDPJ] concerning differing positions on the war-renouncing constitution.

"Although the LDP adopted a goal of replacing the constitution with a self-drafted constitution as a tenet at the time of its founding (in 1955), the LDP panel on the constitution last year called for not making the tenet a prerequisite," Kono, LDP president, told a session of the House of Councillors.

Kono was referring to the LDP's position that Japan should draft its own constitution to replace the current one which was written and enacted by U.S. occupation administrators in 1946.

SDP Secretary General Wataru Kubo pressed Kono in the Diet to explain how the LDP and its longtime archrival SDP can reconcile differences on the constitutional principle of not using armed forces to resolve international conflicts. "Successive LDP governments have also pronounced their resolves not to rewrite the constitution," Kono said.

Kubo also demanded to know whether the LDP would throw its support behind Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's goal of seeking to create a "world free from any military equipment."

In his first policy speech to the Diet on Monday, Murayama said his administration "will pursue the creation of a world free from any military equipment as an ultimate goal of humanity."

Kono responded by saying the LDP "would like to pursue the goal, although it is a hard-to-accomplish goal in the face of the realities of the current human society and international community."

In other debates, Murayama rejected Komeito Vice Chairman Naohiko Okubo's charge that the current administration is a "government without any convictions and principles."

Murayama said the current coalition draws its strength from a policy coordination agreement on diplomacy and

domestic policies struck among the SDP, LDP and New Party Sakigake, an LDP splinter, prior to its inauguration.

"Your administration betrayed voters" as SDP legislators drew voters' support by vowing to oust the LDP from power in a 1993 general election, Okubo told Murayama.

"Prime minister, you yourself told voters (during the election campaign) that the LDP's grip on power is on the brink of collapsing," Okubo said.

The LDP lost its 38-year uninterrupted lock on power as a result of its defeat in the 1993 general election, ousted by the coalition government of former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa that formed an anti-LDP alliance with the SDP and six other parties.

The SDP later quit the alliance when Hosokawa was succeeded by Tsutomu Hata, Murayama's predecessor, as the socialists were excluded from a new parliamentary group.

Murayama also distanced himself from the SDP position that visits to the Yasukuni shrine by cabinet ministers in their official capacity violate the constitutional principle of banning state patronage of religion.

The premier said his administration "has not changed the hitherto-followed official government view that an official visit by a prime minister in a method adopted in 1985 would not violate the constitution."

Then-Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone caused an international stir in 1985 by saying he visited the shrine in his official capacity as premier. His visit came under a barrage of criticism from the SDP-led opposition camp.

Murayama said he and his cabinet ministers "will judge cautiously and independently" whether they should visit the shrine "in light of the feelings of people of neighboring countries."

Asian countries have criticized visits to the shrine by cabinet ministers because persons convicted of war crimes are enshrined there along with other war dead.

Kono, meanwhile, indicated a reconsideration of the long-time LDP opposition to a bill that would compensate relatives of people killed by the 1945 U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki or who died afterward as a result of the bombing.

"Although the LDP has long balked at the bill, it is now necessary for the ruling coalition to consider the bill cautiously," Kono said.

Drafts of the bill that were sketched by the former coalition parties, including the SDP, which has long proposed such compensation, call for the government to pay an allowance of up to 500,000 yen per victim to the bereaved families.

Kubo Says Aim of SDPJ Still Demilitarization

OW2207085094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0755 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ] Secretary General Wataru Kubo said Friday [22 Jul] Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's statement that the SDPJ's policy of "unarmed neutrality" is outdated does not mean it will abandon "demilitarization" as its ultimate aim.

Kubo told a press conference that Murayama was in no way contravening the spirit of the constitution when he said that such neutrality had served its purpose.

"The ideas in the constitution are aimed at Japan and the world being unarmed, and are compatible with the doctrine of demilitarization," Kubo said.

Instead, he stressed that Murayama, in his statements to the Diet on Thursday, pledged to respect the spirit of the constitution and continue to work for an arms-free world.

"The prime minister's reply meant that the emphasis given to the policy of unarmed neutrality in the Cold War had its results and served a certain role," Kubo said.

On Thursday, Murayama told a plenary session of the House of Councillors that the idealistically pacifist security policy long advocated by the SDPJ had served its purpose, but that "unarmed neutrality" is no longer appropriate for Japan.

In a major policy shift for the SDPJ, Murayama, chairman of the party, also proclaimed Wednesday that he no longer views the Self-Defense Forces as unconstitutional.

The SDPJ is a member of the new three-party governing coalition led by the first SDPJ prime minister in almost half a century.

Business Forum on Political Donations Issue

OW2207112894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1046 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Oyama, Japan, July 22 KYODO—A business forum closed its three-day session Friday [22 Jul] after discussions on political donations and economic deregulation, conference sources said.

The sources said the attendants could not come to agreement and decided to let a political and enterprise committee come up with a proposal on political donations by the end of October.

The participants also were unable to reach a unanimous agreement on the approach toward deregulation, they said.

The forum was organized at this summer resort at the foot of Mt. Fuji by the powerful Federation of Economic

Organizations (Keidanren) to exchange views on pending political and economic issues.

Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of the federation, told the session the federation plans to make a decision on its stance on political donations as early as possible.

Toyoda, who is chairman of Japan's top automaker Toyota Motor Corp., said it is desirable that corporate donations to political parties will be replaced with government subsidies and individual contributions.

Isao Nakauchi, chairman of Japan's leading supermarket chain operator Daiei Inc., said individual enterprises will have to continue political donations and that he preferred a system under which donations by individual firms were funneled through Keidanren.

Keidanren suspended arranging for political donations by its member firms last August when the conservative Liberal Democratic Party was toppled from power, ending its continuous rule over the past four decades.

Kenji Katsumata, chairman of the federation's political and enterprise commission, said the commission will study the political donation issue on the basis of the federation's decision not to arrange for contributions by member firms.

Sho Nasu, chairman of Tokyo Electric Power Co., called on the federation to work out a firm policy to press for economic deregulation.

Hiroshi Saito, chairman of Nippon Steel Corp., expressed doubt that deregulation will bring about reduction of Japan's global trade surplus and create new job opportunities.

Sueaki Takaoka, chairman of major supermarket chain operator Seiyu Ltd., called for a thorough study on effects of deregulation on business operations, including a possible steep fall in prices.

Cabinet To Decide on Public Utility Hikes Soon

OW2207033994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0215 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—The Japanese Government will soon decide on hikes on some public utilities charges after examining the results of overhauling, the Economic Planning chief suggested Friday [22 July]. “(The government) will make necessary decisions in the near future after seeing outcomes of the comprehensive checkups on public utilities rates,” Economic Planning Agency [EPA] Director General Masahiko Komura said at a press conference after a cabinet meeting.

The government of former Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata decided to freeze public utilities charges at least within this year and held back any applications for hikes in an effort to help the ailing economy.

Komura said the strict overhauling should be done first in line with the former government's policy. Even if it

proves necessary to raise some charges, the time lag should not be used as an excuse to make such hikes bigger than originally applied for, Komura said.

In May, the Hata administration froze charges on public services, including expressway tolls, domestic telephone call charges, rents on government-owned housing, and fire insurance premiums, which were planned to be raised this year. Preparations have been allowed to go ahead for hikes next year, however.

The former government also instructed ministries and government agencies to overhaul the public service charges in question to check whether there are any problems in each operator's management and ways of determining rate hikes. Komura hinted that the result of the overhauling will come out as early as next week.

He also suggested that public service operators requesting hikes should implement thorough rationalization if they want their applications approved.

Meanwhile, a Liberal Democratic Party project team on public service charges has reaffirmed its policy to call for lifting the freeze on “reasonable” increases one by one.

Takemura Agrees With BOJ View on Economy

OW2207021194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0203 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Friday [22 July] he largely agrees with the Bank of Japan's [BOJ] assessment that the economy is recovering, except for what he indicated may be an overly optimistic view on the impact of the yen's rise.

Takemura told reporters after a morning cabinet meeting that while the terms used are different, “there are no big differences in assessment” in the views of the finance ministry and the BOJ's quarterly economic report.

The central bank report, released Wednesday, painted a brighter picture than before of the economy, saying, “the economy is finally moving toward a recovery.”

“We are looking at the same data...and it's a fact that bright spots led by domestic demand are emerging,” Takemura said. “But I'm still worried about the yen's rise,” he said, noting that his ministry would refrain from adopting the relatively optimistic view offered by Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno.

Mieno, addressing an annual meeting of second-tier regional bankers on Thursday, said buoyant exports as overseas economies recover may cushion the yen's rise.

Asked about Japan's trade surplus in reference to comments by U.S. Treasury officials, Takemura said the latest data indicate that it is indeed “on the trend to peak out and start shrinking.” He was reaffirming the view

offered overnight in a U.S. Treasury report and testimony at a senate panel by Treasury Undersecretary Lawrence Summers.

Takemura also promised continued policy efforts by Japan to make the trend into a firm one. But he declined to comment on congressional testimony by U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan suggesting an imminent U.S. rate hike to tame inflationary pressure.

Turning to Japan's fiscal 1995 budget, Takemura repeated his opposition to allowing new special ceilings, while confirming that the government and the ruling coalition parties are yet undecided on the policy for budget ceilings. "One new special ceiling will lead to unlimited demand for another," Takemura said, stressing this must be avoided amid tough fiscal conditions.

The Finance Ministry imposes caps known as ceilings on budget requests to be made later by other ministries and agencies. As for special ceilings to allow higher budget growth above the overall caps, the ministry has limited them to such items as defense and overseas assistance during the severe fiscal conditions of the past few years. But other ministries, led by farm and construction, are calling for the special budget allocations for the next fiscal year.

With the current extraordinary diet session ending Friday, Takemura said the government and the ruling parties will step up their discussions to decide next week on the policy for budget ceilings. The new coalition government wants a fresh policy, different from that of former governments, Takemura said. "But it should be on a scrap and build basis" by each ministry and agency to review its spending programs under a given budget framework, he noted.

Ministry To Build High Quality Rental Housing

OW2207091394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0847 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—The Construction Ministry plans to build a large number of high quality rental houses for salaried workers within a commuting distance of 30 minutes from major cities, officials said Friday [22 Jul].

The officials said the ministry will acquire necessary land using a newly introduced fixed-term land leasing system designed to help salaried workers own homes on easy terms.

Under the system, tenants are allowed to lease land for a fixed term at 20 to 30 percent of the real estate value and return the assets with housing after the expiration of a lease contract, normally covering 50 years or longer.

The officials said the plan calls for construction of 100,000 units annually in urban areas around Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya.

Monthly rents will be about 170,000 yen per unit, 50 to 30 percent cheaper than normal, they said.

Agency To Monitor Industrial Chemicals Flow

OW2207015094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0036 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 22 KYODO—The Environment Agency will create a registration system to monitor the outflow of industrial chemicals into the environment, agency sources said Friday [22 July].

Several hundred toxic or massively used industrial chemicals will be monitored, with companies required to report to the agency the amount of these chemicals they dump into the environment, the sources said. The new system will facilitate the planning of pollution prevention measures and help enhance corporate control on the disposal of chemicals, they said. The United States has adopted a similar system covering some 300 chemicals.

The step is also in line with the recent call by the organization for economic cooperation and development, which is drafting technological guidelines for such registration systems.

Currently in Japan, only 14 toxic chemicals out of tens of thousands of chemicals in use are subject to a government restriction on production and imports, and emission and effluent standards are set for some others.

Half of Pollees Content With Present Society

OW1607113894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1121 GMT 16 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 16 KYODO—A government survey released Saturday [16 July] underscored a recent trend for Japanese people to be more conservative, with half of those polled saying they are content with the present society and thus surpassing the ratio of those who do not think so for the first time.

The survey, conducted by the Education Ministry's Institute of Statistical Mathematics, also found that more than 50 percent of the respondents chose their families or children as the most important element in their lives, while only 4 percent picked jobs in contrast to the reputation of Japanese as workaholics.

The opinion poll, conducted every five years to sample national traits, was taken in October 1993, covering 5,400 people over age 20 throughout the country. Of that number, about 3,700 persons, or 69 percent, answered.

Those who answered that they are satisfied with the present society totaled 6 percent, while 44 percent said they are more or less content. The combined figure exceeded 48 percent of people who are displeased with society.

Asked what is the most important thing, 42 percent of those polled chose their families, up 9 percentage points recorded in the previous survey in 1988, and 10 percent picked their children.

Only 4 percent of the respondents answered that money and fortunes are most important to them, while work was chosen by the same ratio of people.

When asked which gender they would choose if reborn, 65 percent of female respondents said they would like to be women next time, compared with 29 percent of those who prefer to be men. On the other hand, 90 percent of men answered that they would like to be men again.

On revision of the constitution, a question included in the survey for the first time, 43 percent said they are in favor of it. People who are against revising the constitution totaled 26 percent, while 28 percent said they cannot answer that question.

But critics said the question was ambiguous, singling out no particular articles and giving no reasons why they approve or disapprove of revising the constitution.

North Korea

Agreement With U.S. To Resume Talks on 5 Aug

SK2207090994 *Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean* 0833 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Information (podo) issued by a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] As a result of the death of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, delegates from the two sides who attended the third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks provisionally suspended the talks [iltan hyuhoehago] and agreed to set the date for the resumption of the talks during a working-level contact in New York after the condolence period over Kim Il-song's death.

Accordingly, a working-level contact between the DPRK and New York was held in New York on 21 July. At this contact, the two sides agreed to resume the third-round of DPRK-U.S. talks in Geneva on 5 August.

KCNA Reports Talks Resumption

SK2207110194 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 1056 GMT 22 Jul 94

["Communique on Resumption of Third-Round DPRK-USA talks"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea published a communique today concerning the resumption of the third round of the talks between the DPRK and the USA.

It says:

The delegations to the third-round DPRK-USA talks adjourned the talks upon the sudden death of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and promised each other to set the date of its resumption through the New York channel of working-level contact after the mourning period.

Accordingly, a working-level contact took place in New York on July 21, at which the sides agreed to resume the talks in Geneva on August 5.

ROK Said To Commit 'Military Provocations'

SK2207111294 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 1100 GMT 22 Jul 94

["South Korean Warlikers Commit Military Provocations in DMZ"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—The South Korean bellicose elements committed military provocations against the northern half of Korea in the Demilitarized Zone along the Military Demarcation Line, according to military sources.

On the 19th of July, they brought recoilless guns and large-calibre machine guns to the MP posts in the DMZ south of the Military Demarcation Line marker No. 0650 in front of Mt. Osong, Phyonggang County, and 10 odd bandits installed heavy weapons at positions and levelled them at our post.

Earlier, on the 15th, 14th and 13th, the war-thirsty elements deployed recoilless guns and large-calibre machine guns into the DMZ in Jangphung, Kosong, Cholwon and Phyonggang Counties, and trained them on our side, gravely threatening the safety of People's Army soldiers.

Meanwhile, on the 19th, 14th and 13th, armed bandits present in the DMZ in Phyonggang, Kimhwa and Cholwon Counties took positions following an emergency call and took a firing posture, creating a grisly war atmosphere.

The number of the heavy weapons illegally introduced into the DMZ by the South Korean warlikers from July 7 to 19 totalled over 20, the armed personnel more than 5,300 and vehicles above 1,800.

The wild cat military provocations committed by the South Korean warlikers in the DMZ in succession are deliberate and premeditated move designed to render the inter-Korean relations strained.

Hanchongnyon Stance on Mourning Delegation Noted

SK2207054794 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 0530 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—The South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon), the vanguard of one million students, told a press

conference Wednesday that there was no change in the position of paying a mourning visit, which it had clarified on the death of President Kim Il-song, a Seoul-based radio reported.

Hanchongnyon called a press conference at Hanyang University on July 14 and declared that if the authorities failed to send an official mourning delegation to the North until July 17, it would send its own independent mourning delegation.

Pomminnyon Denounces ROK for Blocking Trip

*SK2207112994 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1024 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—The overseas headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and the spokesman of the Pomminnyon headquarters of Koreans in China and Yang Yong-tong, chairman of the Pomminnyon headquarters of Koreans in China, issued statements denouncing the South Korean authorities for blocking the mourning trip of the preparatory committee for the formation of the South side headquarters of Pomminnyon.

The overseas headquarters of Pomminnyon in the statement said the five million Koreans overseas can hardly repress resentment at the reckless act of the South Korean authorities in brutally trampling underfoot the people's pure feelings for mourning the death of President Kim Il-song.

It demanded the South Korean authorities allow mourning visits of people, stop the foolish repression and immediately release the pro-reunification patriots imprisoned for attempting the mourning trip.

Yang Yong-tong in his statement said that if the South Korean authorities have the intention to atone for their treason against the country and the nation, if but a little, they must refrain from rash acts and must not put down the South Korean people's desire for northern trip.

South People, Groups Send Funeral Streamers

*SK2207113094 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1027 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) and other organisations and people of South Korea sent many funeral streamers to the bier of the great leader President Kim Il-song, the father of the nation, expressing deep condolences on his death, according to the Pyongyang mission of Hanminjon [South Korean National Democratic Front].

Written on the streamers are "Deep Condolences on the Death of Respected President Kim Il-song," "We Pray for the Soul of President Kim Il-song, the Father of the Nation," "Oh This Grief and Pain! is President Kim

Il-song Really Gone?" "The South Also Weeps on Death of President Kim Il-song," "President Kim Il-song, Our Father for Reunification."

Also written on the streamers are "We Will Glorify President Kim Il-song's Cause With Reunification," "We Will Uphold General Kim Chong-il, a Peerless Great Man," "General Kim Chong-il, the Leader of the Nation," "Let Us Uphold General Kim Chong-il, the Leader of Reunification," "Forward to Independence, Democracy and Reunification, Following General Kim Chong-il," "Reunification Within 90s Under General Kim Chong-il," "Let the 70 Million Unite Into One," etc.

Kim Il-song's Reunification Efforts Recalled

*SK2207003394 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1534 GMT 21 Jul 94*

["Life Devoted to Noble Cause of National Reunification"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—The entire Korean people now feel heartsore at the passing away of the great leader President Kim Il-song before seeing the day of the reunification of the country he desired so earnestly.

It was the greatest task and desire of President Kim Il-song in his lifetime to see the whole nation live harmoniously in the reunified country.

The great leader President Kim Il-song said:

"It is the most important revolutionary task of our party to achieve national reunification, the greatest desire of the entire Korean people."

The great leader devoted his all to the cause of reunification, saying the greatest gift he could give to our people was national reunification.

Korea has been undergoing sufferings of territorial partition and national division for nearly half a century owing to the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea after the August 15 liberation.

Respected President Kim Il-song clarified long ago that the question of Korea's reunification was to restore the territory and people lost to foreign imperialists and establish national sovereignty nationwide and powerfully aroused the entire Korean people to the struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

He rallied all people who loved the country and the nation on the democratic united front.

On his initiative, the joint conference of representatives of political parties and public organizations in North and South Korea was convened in Pyongyang in April, 1948.

The conference was participated in by nearly 700 representatives of 56 political parties and public organizations in North and South Korea.

Among them were rightwing politicians and nationalists including Kim Ku and Kim Kyu-sik who were committed to "anti-communism" till their old age.

The participants of the conference acclaimed President Kim Il-song as the supreme leader of the nation and centre of the unity and cohesion, representing the unanimous will of the Korean people.

The Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland was formed in Pyongyang in June, 1949, with the attendance of representatives of over 70 political parties and public organisations in the North and the South.

In his historical work "Let Us Unite All the Patriotic, Democratic Forces for the Great Cause of National Reunification" in January, 1950, five months before the war broke out in Korea, the great leader indicated detailed tasks and ways for reunifying the country and building an independent and sovereign state.

After the war, he put forward a principled policy of reunification and reasonable proposals for it in conformity with the new situation of the country, lifting the movement for reunification to a higher stage.

The first session of the second Supreme People's Assembly held in September, 1957, proposed to the South Korean authorities to get all the foreign troops withdrawn and slashing the North and South Korean Armed Forces to 100,000 men or less each.

Entering the '70s, a new phase opened in the accomplishment of the Korean people's cause of reunification. In those days, the July 4 North-South joint statement the keynote of which are the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity laid down by President Kim Il-song in a unique way was published and the five-point policy of national reunification was put forward in Korea.

The DPRK Government made proposals of national reunification on over 130 occasions till the mid '70s from right after the liberation, in accordance with the basic policy of national reunification set forth by the great leader.

In the '80s and '90s, the desire of the Korean people for reunification grew more intense than ever before.

At the sixth congress of the Workers' Party of Korea held in October, 1980, President Kim Il-song published the most realistic and reasonable proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo the proposal to born one confederal state by drawing the North and the South into it, leaving the ideas and social systems existing in the two parts as they are, and the ten-point political program of the confederal state.

Entering in '90s, he published historical works including "Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of Our Nation" (in August, 1991) and "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the

country" to vigorously arouse all the Koreans in the North, the South and overseas in achieving the historic cause of national reunification, transcending differences in idea, social system, political grouping, political view and religious belief.

The entire Korean people are now filled with the firm determination to realize without fail the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, allied in one mind behind Comrade Kim Chong-il, the illustrious leader of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people, upholding the intention of respected President Kim Il-song.

Party Held for Chongnyon Mourning Delegation

SK2207003494 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1609 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—A consolation party arranged by the illustrious leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, was given at the Mokran House in Pyongyang on July 19 for the mourning delegation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and Korean mourners from Japan.

Present on the occasion were Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials concerned.

The mourning delegation of Chongnyon led by Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, was also present.

The participants also included the delegation of Chongnyon businessmen led by Choe Yong-sik, chairman of the Federation of Korean Traders and Industrialists in Japan, the delegation of the Federation of Korean Credit Associations in Japan led by its chairman Kim Chae-kyu, the delegation of officials of Chongnyon prefectural headquarters led by Kim U-chong, chairman of the Kanagawa prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon, the delegation of officials of the League of Korean Youth in Japan led by Yi Hong-il, vice-chairman of its Central Standing Committee, the delegation of officials of the Democratic Union of Korean Women in Japan led by Kang Chu-yon, a section chief of its Central Standing Committee, the delegation of Educational Workers of Chongnyon led by Ko Ui-kap, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the Union of Korean Teachers in Japan, the delegation of the Educational Associations under Chongnyon led by Cha Song-u, chairman of the Tokyo Metropolitan Educational Association, the delegation of Chongnyon branch officials led by So Chang-mu, vice-chairman of the Chiba prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon and chairman of the Chiba branch, the delegation of the CHOSON SINBO led by Editor-in-Chief Choe U-kyun, the delegation of Korean

artistes in Japan led by Hong Yong-wol, head of the Kumgangsan Opera Troupe, the delegation of Korean social scientists in Japan led by Pak Yong-kon, chairman of the Association of Korean Social Scientists in Japan, the delegation of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Federation in Japan led by its chairman Paek Chong-won, the delegation of officials of Chongnyon enterprises led by Chong Hui-won, president of the Coastal Sea Transport Company, Ltd., the delegation of the Joint Venture Bank of Chongnyon led by Pak Il-nak, vice-president of the Korean Joint Venture Bank, the delegation of Korean University led by its President Nam Si-u, the delegation of the Kuwol Sobang Publishing House led by its Vice-President Kang Chom-yong, the delegation of the Association of Koreans in Japan for Peaceful Reunification led by its Vice-chairman Yi Chong-hwal, the delegation of the Association of Korean Scientists in Japan led by Yi Si-ku, chairman of the Korean Association of Science and Technology in Japan, the delegation of Korean joint venture officials in Japan and home-visiting groups of students of Korean University under Chongnyon staying in the socialist homeland and other Korean mourners from Japan.

In his speech at the party, Kim Yong-sun said:

"Respected comrade supreme commander arranged this party to console the officials of Chongnyon, Korean businessmen in Japan and other Korean mourners from Japan, though he feels the bitterest pain and sorrow at the loss of the great leader.

"This means that he deeply trusts the Chongnyon officials and Korean residents in Japan as his revolutionary comrades-in-arms and wants them to fight in the same ranks for the accomplishment of the *chuche* cause forever.

"We set store by the intense loyalty shown by many comrades of Chongnyon who came to the homeland as members of a mourning delegation and expressed deepest grief before the bier of the fatherly leader and swore a firm oath to the respected supreme commander," he said.

"Recorded in the life of the great leader," he continued, "are the deep marks of leadership which he left in forming Chongnyon and saving the compatriots in Japan who had been downtrodden as members of a ruined nation after crossing the Korean Strait, making them overseas citizens of the dignified homeland of *chuche* and exalting Chongnyon as an organisation of patriotic pioneers and a model of the movement of overseas compatriots in the world."

Kim Yong-sun stressed:

"We believe that you will hold the respected comrade supreme commander in high esteem as the outstanding leader of our people and build up Chongnyon more firmly as an overseas organisation boundlessly faithful to the respected general, following his idea and leadership,

with the unshakable conviction that we will certainly win when there is comrade supreme commander for us."

Ho Chong-man, chief vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, said in his speech that the Chongnyon officials felt stronger yearning for the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song, having been bestowed upon deep trust and love by respected general Kim Chong-il at this moment of deepest grief and pain.

"Our leader was the great father of the nation who devoted his whole life to the motherland and the people," he said, and continued:

"When we saw respected General Kim Chong-il, our grief turned into strength and our mental pillar became stouter.

"We saw the look of the immortal leader in the look of the respected general, heard the resonant voice of the leader in the voice of the general and felt from the hand of the general grasping the hand of each of us the warm temperature of the fatherly leader.

"There is for us one more great leader, General Kim Chong-il, whom heaven sent to our nation as the greatest fortune and biggest bliss.

"As there is the general for us, our compatriots have risen up like a giant with unbreakable faith and will, though they wailed, beating the ground, and our Chongnyon is unshaken with the homeland in any storm.

"We will always emerge victorious when there is the general with us.

"We will turn the sorrow today into strength and courage and always hold in high esteem and follow only the general, dedicating our lives, engraving the behests of the fatherly leader on our hearts.

"Chongnyon is Chongnyon of General Kim Chong-il.

"We will establish the leadership system of the respected general more firmly in the organisation of Chongnyon and rally the compatriots rock-firm around the general so as to exalt Chongnyon formed by the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song in the glorious age of Kim Chong-il."

Kim Chong-il Consoles Mourners

*SK2207030194 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 21 Jul 94*

[Text] A reception [*wiroyon*] arranged by Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great leader [*widaehan yongdoja*] of our party and people who is chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, in honor of members of the mourning delegation of the General Association of Koreans Residing in Japan [Chongnyon] and mourners amongst Korean compatriots in Japan was held at Monngwan on 19 July.

The reception site was filled with the attendants' burning determination of loyalty to more firmly rally around the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as was intended by the respected and beloved leader while alive, and thus achieve the *chuche* revolutionary cause and the cause of national reunification without fail by turning the sorrow of losing the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation and the benevolent father, into strength and courage.

The reception was attended by Comrade Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, and functionaries concerned. The reception was also attended by members of the Chongnyon mourning delegation led by Han Tok-su, chairman of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee. It was also attended by various Chongnyon delegations, homeland visiting groups, and other mourners amongst Korean compatriots in Japan.

Comrade Kim Yong-sun spoke at the reception.

Noting that the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander arranged this significant reception to console Chongnyon functionaries, Chongnyon industrialists, and other comrades who participated in the funeral, in spite of his great pain and sorrow that exceeds that of anyone else, at having lost the great leader, he said:

His warm and benevolent feeling of receiving the Chongnyon mourning delegation on many occasions yesterday and his arrangements at this splendid place again today reflects the lofty expectation of the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander who wants to fight for the consummation of the *chuche* cause together with Chongnyon functionaries and Korean compatriots in Japan aboard the same ship, firmly trusting them as revolutionary comrades-in-arms.

Upon receiving the sad news on the respected and beloved leader's death, comrades from the Chongnyon rushed to the fatherland first before anyone else, laying aside what they were doing, to pay respects to the bier of the fatherly leader, and, thus, they shared the pain and grief of the people in the fatherland. This is an expression of the burning loyalty and filial piety of all Chongnyon functionaries and industrialists toward the great fatherly leader and a manifestation of their firm faith and will to brilliantly consummate the fatherly leader's lofty lifetime will and cause to the end under the leadership of the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander.

We treasure the fact that many comrades from Chongnyon are visiting the fatherland as members of the mourning delegation, expressing the deepest condolences before the bier of the fatherly leader, and making firm oaths of loyalty before the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander.

He said that the loss of the greatest and most excellent fatherly leader is the greatest loss of our nation and mankind which cannot be compensated with anything.

He said that the great leader [*widaehan suryong*] has not left us and continued:

How can we think that the leader [*suryong*] has left us when the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander who directly inherited the fatherly leader's ideology and leadership and his personal character and reputation, remains with us? The *chuche*-oriented socialism of our own style and our dignified fatherland and people will be ever-victorious because the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander is with us.

We firmly believe that comrades will uphold comrade supreme commander as our people's excellent leader [*ttagworhan suryong*] with the firm faith that as long as the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander is with us, we will be victorious without fail, and that they will also more firmly strengthen the Chongnyon as an overseas organization boundlessly loyal to the respected and beloved general [*kyongaehanun changgun*] in accordance with his ideology and leadership.

We firmly believe that comrades will more vigorously wage the Chongnyon's patriotic work to defend and glorify socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses which was built by the great leader [*widaehan suryong*] and which is being led by the respected and beloved general.

Kim Yong-sun Speaks at Reception

SK2207114694 *Pyongyang Korean Central*
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Speech by Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, at a reception arranged by Kim Chong-il in honor of members of the mourning delegation of the General Association of Koreans Residing in Japan, Chongnyon, and mourners among Korean compatriots in Japan, at Mongnangwan in Pyongyang on 19 July—recorded]

[Text] Today we are gathered here together embraced with the feeling of great sadness and sorrow of bidding farewell to the great leader. More than anyone else, the respected and beloved supreme comrade commander [*kyongae hanun choego saryonggwon tongji*] is embraced with the greatest sadness and grief over the loss of the great leader. However, he personally arranged this significant reception [*wiroyon*] to console functionaries of the General Association of Koreans Residing in Japan [*Chongnyon*], Chongnyon industrialist functionaries, and many comrades who participated in the funeral.

Yesterday, he met the Chongnyon mourning delegation on several occasions, and today, he arranged such a grand reception. In this benevolence, it reflects the lofty

expectation of the respected and beloved supreme comrade commander who wants to fight for the consummation of the *chuche* cause together with the Chongnyon functionaries and Korean compatriots in Japan aboard the same ship, firmly trusting them as revolutionary comrades-in-arms.

Upon receiving the sad news of the respected and beloved leader's death, comrades of the Chongnyon rushed to the fatherland first before anyone else, laying aside what they were doing, to pay respects to the noble bier of the fatherly leader, and, thus, they shared the pain and grief with the people in the fatherland. This is an expression of the warm loyalty and filial piety of all the Chongnyon functionaries and industrialists toward the great fatherly leader, and a manifestation of their firm faith and will to brilliantly consummate to the end the fatherly leader's lofty lifetime will and cause under the leadership of the respected and beloved supreme comrade commander.

We treasure the fact that many comrades from the Chongnyon are visiting the fatherland as members of the mourning delegation, expressing the deepest condolences before the bier of the fatherly leader, and making firm oaths of high loyalty before the respected and beloved supreme comrade commander.

The loss of the greatest and most excellent fatherly leader is the greatest loss and sadness of our nation and mankind which cannot be compensated with anything. There are many great men in this world, but there is no leader [*yongdoja*] as our leader [*suryongnim*] who carried out so many works throughout his life for the nation and mankind.

His deep leadership traits saved our Koreans residing in Japan—who suffered from the ruin of the country overseas across the Korea Strait—by organizing Chongnyon, and led them to the dignified overseas citizens of the *chuche* fatherland. This glorified Chongnyon as a patriotic vanguard and a model of the movement of the overseas Koreans throughout the world and characterized his entire life.

How can we think that the leader [*suryong*] has left us when the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander, who directly inherited the fatherly leader's ideology and leadership and his personal character and reputation, remains with us?

The respected and beloved comrade supreme commander has brilliantly elucidated the future road that mankind has to embark upon in the rapidly changing present era by strongly holding the steering gear of history [*yoksau panghyangta*] and, with his great courage and extraordinary strategy, has controlled powers [*kanggugul cheaphasigo*] and saved mankind. Also, he has glorified our country as the *chuche* powerful country and raised our people as the first strong people in the world who only know victory. The *chuche*-oriented socialism of our own style and our dignified

fatherland and people will be ever-victorious because the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander is with us.

We firmly believe that the comrades will uphold comrade supreme commander as our people's excellent leader [*tagworhan suryong*] with the firm faith that we will be victorious without failing, as long as the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander is with us, and that they will also more firmly strengthen Chongnyon as an overseas organization boundlessly loyal to the respected and beloved general [*kyongachanun changgun*] in accordance with his ideology and leadership.

We firmly believe that the comrades will more vigorously wage the Chongnyon's patriotic work to defend and glorify the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style which was built by the great leader [*suryong*] and which is being led by the respected and beloved general.

Chongnyon Leader Supports Kim Chong-il

SK2207030494 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2205 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Report on speech by Ho Chong-man, chief vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, Chongnyon, at a reception to console the Chongnyon delegation and Korean mourners from Japan which was held at the Mongnangwan in Pyongyang on 19 July]

[Text] Ho Chong-man, chief vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, spoke next [after the speech given by Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea].

He said that those who came to bid farewell to the fatherly leader in the fatherland where mountains, streams, plants, and trees are submerged in sorrows, are deeply grieving with the pain of loss that can never be replaced with even heaven or land.

Saying that he felt an irresistible yearning for the great leader, he bestowed deep trust and love to the respected and beloved General Kim Chong-il at this moment of deepest grief and pain, and he stressed that our leader was the great leader of the nation who had devoted his entire life for the fatherland and the people.

Noting that his grief turned into strength and his mental pillar became all the more strengthened when he humbly met the respected and beloved general, he went on to say:

We saw the reflection of the leader in the respected and beloved general; heard the leader's rotund voice in the general's; and felt from the hand of the general grasping the hand of each of us, the warm temperature of the fatherly leader.

We have another great leader [suryong], General Kim Chong-il, whom heaven sent to our nation as the greatest fortune and biggest bliss. As long as the general is with us, we will be ever-victorious. We will turn today's sorrows into strength and courage and will always hold the general in high esteem and only follow him by dedicating our lives until the end of time, engraving the behests of the fatherly leader on our hearts. We will stand on our feet again by converting today's sorrows into strength and courage.

The Chongnyon is General Kim Chong-il's Chongnyon. We will further cement the leadership system of the respected and beloved leader in the Chongnyon organization and firmly rally the compatriots around the general. Thus, we will further glorify the Chongnyon formed by the great leader in the glorious age of Kim Chong-il.

We will fulfill our lofty mission and duty for the reunification of the fatherland by firing up the 700,000 Korean compatriots in Japan to the sanctuary of national reunification under the banner of the 10-point program of the great unity of the whole nation. Hence, we will hold in high esteem the respected and beloved general on a plaza of reunification by achieving the reunification in the nineties and the 700,000 of us will bow deeply before him.

I pledge once again to render all the loyalty and filial devotion not received by the great leader to the respected and beloved general a thousand times over.

Overseas Koreans Express Condolences on Kim Death

*SK2107235894 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1540 GMT 21 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—Overseas Koreans expressed deepest condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Kim Yong-hak, chairman of the Fukuoka Prefectural Headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), said: "The sudden death of our leader who brought a historical period when a new phase was opening on the road of national reunification, the desire of the whole nation, is the biggest loss of the cause of *chuche* and the patriotic work of Chongnyon and the deepest sorrow of the nation."

Kim Yu-hui, vice-chairman of the League of Korean Youth in Japan, noted that upon hearing the sad news that the great leader passed away failing to see the reunification of the country he so aspired after, he felt as if his heart would break with a thunderous shock and unbearable sorrow. "His great feats and tender-hearted image will be alive in the hearts of us all forever," he added.

Advisor to the Kifu Branch of Chongnyon Yi Won-ho said that he had never forgotten even in a dream the

great leader who liberated our nation from the yoke of colonial slavery and embraced it in his warm bosom. "Upon hearing the unexpected sad news, I feel the bitterest grief," he noted.

Yim Song-ho, chairman of the Chida Branch of Nishi Tokyo of Chongnyon, said that the sad news that the great leader passed away made the entire compatriots overwhelmed with heart-rending pain and sorrow. He said that cherishing deep in mind the earnest teachings of the fatherly leader, he will devote his body and soul to the cause of national reunification and the development of the patriotic word of Chongnyon, holding the dear leader Marshal Kim Chong-il in high esteem.

Kim Chong-su, director of the Secretariat of the Union of Korean Literary Men and Artists in Japan, said: "We will overcome today's grief and successfully bloom the flower garden of the *chuche* art in an alien land, too, under the guidance of the dear leader."

Further Condolences Sent

*SK2207054494 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0521 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—Overseas Koreans on the five continents expressed deep condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Wreaths came from the Council for the Year of Peaceful Reunification of the Korean Churches in the Americas, the Consultative Council of Korean Churches, and Korean residents in the United States, messages of condolence from Pak Yong-chin and Rev. Shultz, co-chairmen of the preparatory committee for the Forum on Peaceful Reunification in the United States, Choe Chong-in, president of a business company in the U.S., Pak Chong-su, president of a business company in Canada, Han Ye-hun, adviser, and An Sam-il, secretary general, of the Australian regional headquarters of the National Alliance for the country's reunification, Pae Chol-sang, publisher of the HANHO TIMES, a Koreans' paper in Sidney, Australia, and Koreans in Europe, a letter of condolence from Pak Kun-ha, a Korean resident in Sweden, and an elegy from Kim Myong-kuk, a Korean resident in the United States.

They expressed bitter sorrow, saying that the great leader underwent too much mental and physical troubles till his age of eighties. They said the Korean people will accomplish the cause of peaceful reunification through great national unity as indicated by the great leader.

Meanwhile, Koreans in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Oceania held regional emergency meetings, organized mourning committees and set up places for mourning service.

Many mourners visited the places, expressed deep condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song, laid wreaths with reverence and paid silent tributes to his memory.

Foreign Party, State Leaders Offer Condolences*SK2207054894 Pyongyang KCNA in English GMT 0455 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of condolence from foreign party and state leaders on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

They came from Vanuatu President Jean-Marie Reye Lenlgau Manatawai, Jamaican Prime Minister P.J. Patterson, General Secretary of the People's Unity Party of Tunisia Mohamed Bel Hadj Amor, General Secretary of the Indian National Congress Party (I) Sushil Kumar Shinde on behalf of the party, General Secretary of the New Yugoslav Communist Movement Branko Kitanovic, Chairperson of the Communist Party of Denmark Betty Frydensbjerg Carisson, Secretary General of the Party of Revolution of Benin Ali Houdou, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party Vladimir Spasov, National Political Commissar of the National Resistance Movement of Uganda and First Vice-premier of Uganda Eriya Kategaya and Acting Chairman of the Political Council N.S. Kiyashiko [spelling of all names as received], authorised by the Standing Committee of the Political Council of the Socialist Party of Ukraine.

The messages said President Kim Il-song was a leader who devoted his whole life to the peace and independence of the Korean people and the oppressed peoples of the world and that his exploits will remain in the hearts of the world people.

Comrade Kim Chong-il also received messages of condolence from the National Leadership of the People's Electoral Movement of Venezuela, the Bulgarian Communist Party (Marxist), the Renewal Community Party of Bulgaria and the Workers and Peasants Party of Bulgaria.

Foreign Figures Send Condolences on Kim Death*SK2207053894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0513 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—Messages of condolence came to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il from high-ranking officials of different countries on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

They came from Vice-President of the Council of Ministers Jose Ramon Fernandez and Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina Gonzalez of Cuba; Indonesian Vice-President Try Sutrisno; Doan Khue, member of the Political Bureau and deputy secretary of the Military Commission of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Communist Party and minister of national defence of Vietnam; former president of Tanzania Julius K. Nyerere; Foreign Minister of Angola Venancio Da Silva; Hussein Tantawi, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces and minister of defence and military production

of Egypt; and dignitaries of Burundi, Jordan, Mexico, Thailand, Uganda, Nigeria, New Zealand and Cambodia.

Expressing deep condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song, the messages said his immortal exploits for the times and the people would shine forever in human history.

They expressed the belief that the Korean people would successfully accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche under the leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

In the meantime, messages of condolence came from American personages including lawyer Ramsey Clark, former attorney general of the Department of Justice, and Selig Harrison, senior associate of "the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace" in the United States.

PRC Flag Flown at Half-Mast Upon Kim Death*SK2207054694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0525 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—A ceremony for hoisting the flag at half-mast was held at the Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China, on July 20 to mourn over the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

A guard of honor for hoisting flag hoisted the Chinese national flag up to the top of the flagpole amid the playing of the national anthem, and slowly down at half-mast after the playing.

At the same time, the flags were hanging at half-mast at the great hall of the people, the Xinhuaamen of Zhongnanhai and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

More than 2,000 Beijing citizens observed the ceremony.

PRC, Pakistan, Angola Observe Mourning Days*SK2207004994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1543 GMT 21 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—Several steps were taken in China, Pakistan and Angola to express deep condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

A spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that on July 20 flags would be hung at half-mast at Tiananmen, the Great Hall of the People, Xinhuaamen in Zhongnanhai, and the building of the Foreign Ministry and entire radio and television broadcasting stations in China would stop broadcasting amusement program.

The Pakistani Government declared July 19, 1994 as a nation-wide mourning day and decided to hang flags at half-mast at all state and government organs and enterprises.

The Central Committee of the Liberal Democratic Party of Angola formed a Memorial Committee with seven

Political Bureau members and members of the party Central Committee and set July 14-17 as a mourning period and decided to hang a flag at half-mast at the building of the party Central Committee.

Present at a memorial service held by the party Central Committee on July 17 were over 2,000 persons including Political Bureau members and members of the party Central Committee.

Flags at Half-Mast in Bangladesh To Honor Kim

*SK2207052994 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0514 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—Flags were hung at half-mast at buildings of government and self-management organs of Bangladesh and its missions abroad on July 20 to express condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Equatorial Guinea, Zimbabwe Mourn Kim Death

*SK2207053094 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0516 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—Equatorial Guinean President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo called an emergency meeting of the government on July 10 and adopted a government decision to mourn the death of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The decision said a top-level delegation led by the president would be dispatched and the period up to July 17 would be set as a mourning period.

It also said reports concerning the death of President Kim Il-song would be broadcast in the first programme three times on radio and twice on television every day and that the Foreign Ministry would organise mourning calls of the government, political parties, public organisations and individuals.

The Zimbabwean Government issued a communique on July 19, setting July 20 as day of national mourning and deciding to hang flags at half-mast nationwide.

Media Publish Articles on Kim Il-song's Death

*SK2107221594 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1512 GMT 21 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—Foreign media published articles on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song, highly praising his greatness.

The British paper ASIAN TIMES on July 11 said in an article that President Kim Il-song devoted his whole life to the Korean people. His Excellency Generalissimo Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was a great man in Korean, Asian and world history and the most outstanding statesman of the 20th century, it stated.

The paper noted that the DPRK is gallantly progressing, not yielding to the imperialists' aggressive moves because socialism built by President Kim Il-song in the country is deeply rooted among the popular masses.

Pointing out that President Kim Il-song made immortal contributions to the development of the Non-aligned Movement and South-South cooperation, it said the DPRK under his leadership has rendered great services for the liberation struggle in different countries.

The Bulgarian paper TRIBUNA on July 15 said that Comrade Kim Il-song, a great man who had left brilliant marks in the human history of the 20th century, passed away.

He created an excellent model of socialism by founding the great chuche idea and applying it to the reality of Korea and thus made a great contribution to the development of human society, the paper wrote.

Noting that the cause started by Comrade Kim Il-song has advanced along a road of victory till today, the paper said: Its secret lies in that the cause has been led by a great man and it has won the undisputed support of the entire people.

The Ugandan paper THE NEW VISION on July 15 said His Excellency President Kim Il-song was an inspiring banner for the African people and youth. The principle of leadership established by him teaches the African people how they should develop Africa, it noted.

The paper called upon all the young people in Africa to follow the whole life of His Excellency President Kim Il-song and the example of revolution set by him.

A radio of Iran on July 13 reported that esteemed His Excellency President Kim Il-song wisely led socialist construction through ordeals and performed undying feats in the struggle against imperialism as a great leader of the world.

Foreign Reports on Kim Il-song's Achievements

*SK2207113194 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1034 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—Foreign mass media highly appreciated the immortal revolutionary exploits of the great leader President Kim Il-song on his death.

The Nepali paper MAJADUR KISSAN July 11 said: Comrade Kim Il-song, a peerless great man, constantly fought for the independence, sovereignty and dignity of the country from his boyhood. He won the independence of the country by victoriously leading the anti-Japanese struggle, and did all he could for the reunification of the divided country. His death is an irrevocable great loss for the communist movement.

The Tanzanian paper DAILY NEWS July 11 in an article headlined "Loss of Great Revolutionary" introduced in detail the revolutionary exploits of respected President Kim Il-song, saying he wisely led the Workers' Party and people of Korea along a road of victory and performed immortal exploits for the national history of the country and human history.

The Romanian paper EVENIMENTUL ZILEI said President Kim Il-song is highly praised as the sun of mankind, genius of creation, peerless national hero, outstanding thinker and theoretician and great strategist.

The Indian paper NATIONAL HERALD July 12 said, with the death of President Kim Il-song, mankind has lost the legendary leader and outstanding leader it deeply respected and revered. The paper expressed the belief that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il would creditably carry forward the revolutionary cause.

The radio of Guinea July 9 said President Kim Il-song was one of the most historic great men in the world and that he liberated the country, victoriously led the fatherland liberation war and built Korean-style socialism for the happiness of mankind and the dignity of the Korean people.

The national radio of Angola that day said President Kim Il-song recently received former U.S. President Carter, put forward a new proposal for the reunification of Korea and a solution to the nuclear issue and worked energetically to put it into effect despite political, economic and military pressure from the United States and other Western countries.

Military Men Pledge To Support Kim Chong-il

*SK2207005294 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1551 GMT 21 Jul 94*

["Firm Pledge of Anti-Japanese Revolutionary Fighters and KPA Officers and Men"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 21 (KCNA)—The anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters and all the officers and men of the Korean People's Army [KPA] are taking a burning pledge to realize the intention of the great leader President Kim Il-song in his lifetime, holding Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il at the head of the party and the revolution.

Chon Mun-sop, an anti-Japanese revolutionary fighter who experienced a protracted and bloody struggle, following the great leader, said:

"Now I remember the venerable appearance of the leader who defeated the pouncing enemy, with a machine-gun in his hands, caring for the safety of our young guerrillas while implanting the conviction of certain victory in their minds in those days of the anti-Japanese revolution.

On this heart-rending day of bidding the last farewell to him I make a firm pledge.

I will hold the dear leader in high esteem at the head of the party and the state as the great leader so ardently told in his lifetime and uphold him forever with loyalty and filial piety in one mind as we defended the great leader at the cost of our lives in those days of the anti-Japanese revolution."

Vice Marshal of the KPA Kim Kwang-chin said that respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il is the illustrious leader of the revolution and the destiny of our country, nation and socialism.

"We officers and men of the People's Army will become rifles and bombs unhesitatingly devoting their lives to respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il, with the iron faith that we are sure to win in any storm and defeat any enemy as long as we are led by comrade supreme commander."

Choe Yong-hui, an officer of the KPA, stressed:

"Leader, we are not merely grieved.

General Kim Chong-il with extraordinary intelligence and matchless grit is with us.

I will believe respected comrade supreme commander as a mental pillar forever under any adversity, follow him and do my best to achieve the earlier national reunification the fatherly leader so earnestly aspired after, upholding the guidance of the dear leader with loyalty.

An officer Pak Yong-chol and his seven brothers and an officer Yi Chong-un and his five brothers said that as there is the great General Kim Chong-il, the most famous general who descended from heaven, our mind is strong and we always win victory. They stressed they would devote their all to accomplishing the revolutionary cause of *chuche* started by the great leader, upholding the leadership of comrade supreme commander.

Papers Call To Defend Kim Il-song, Support Son

*SK2207103394 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1010 GMT 22 Jul 94*

["Papers Call For Endlessly Glorifying Revolutionary Feats of President Kim Il-song"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—Papers here today call on all the members of the Workers' Party of Korea and working people to more staunchly struggle to defend and glorify the revolutionary feats of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, always cherishing the pledge they made before his bier as his revolutionary soldiers.

In an editorial titled "Let Us Endlessly Glorify the Revolutionary Feats of the Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song" NODONG SINMUN says that though the fatherly leader passed away, the marks of his great leadership, his great revolutionary feats, recorded in history will remain shining long through generations.

It further says:

Respected Comrade Kim Il-song was the greatest leader of the working class and a genius of mankind who performed exploits immortal in history for the freedom and liberation of the popular masses and for the cause of the independence of mankind in the whole course of the protracted and arduous revolution.

The editorial quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"The leader enjoys deep respect and trust from the people because he has performed undying feats for the cause of the independence of the popular masses."

It notes:

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song devoted his whole life to the noble cause of human liberation from his early years when he set on the road of revolution to the moment when his great heart stopped beating.

In those years, he performed great feats to be recorded in gold letters in the history of our revolutionary struggle by successfully leading the underground revolutionary struggle, two revolutionary wars, two stages of social revolution and several stages of socialist construction. He also made an imperishable contribution to the world people's cause of independence against imperialism, the overall cause of socialism.

The fatherly leader Comrade Kim Il-song devotedly worked until his last moments to provide our party and people with better foundations saying that the present glorious era called after the name of the dear leader will be an era more brilliant and prosperous in the future.

Only our party and our people have inherited such precious assets and such great and rich revolutionary legacies from the leader who pioneered and led the revolutionary cause.

The revolutionary achievements made by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song are, indeed, great exploits without parallel which no one else had been able to perform in their content, width and depth and their influence on the times and the development of history.

The revolutionary feats of our leader are highly praised by the people today and will always be cherished in the hearts of the people.

Regarding the revolutionary feats of the fatherly leader as the eternal assets of our revolution and our lifeline, we must carry forward his leadership feats one hundred percent. We must not allow the slightest attempt to damage them.

We must uphold without the slightest deviation all the immensely rich achievements of the great leader such as the achievements in building the revolutionary party of chuche type, building the people's power, building the

revolutionary Armed Forces, building the working people's organisations, in economic construction and cultural construction, and unswervingly inherit the revolutionary working method and popular style of work of the leader.

Standing at the head of our revolution is the sagacious leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who is successfully carrying forward the revolutionary cause of the respected leader to completion.

If we are to carry the behests of the fatherly leader to reality and add shine to his immortal revolutionary exploits through generations, we must uphold the leadership of the dear leader with loyalty. The entire party members and working people must, in the future, too, hold the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in high esteem as the defender of our destiny and the sun of our life and remain faithful to his idea and leadership to the end and, on this road, steadfastly maintain the continuity of the blood of chuche of our party and revolution which would remain unshaken eternally.

The immortal feats performed by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song for the times and the revolution will shine long because there are the tested leadership of the dear leader and our people intensely loyal to him.

Document Revering Kim Il-song Found at University

*SK2207054594 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0523 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, July 22 (KCNA)—A document expressing reverence for President Kim Il-song was discovered at Hanyang University at a time when placards and big-letter papers mourning over the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song were seen at universities and colleges of South Korea, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Carried on the front page of the document was a picture of President Kim Il-song and beneath it were letters reading "Best wishes for longevity in good health".

Radio Reports on Provincial Memorial Services

SK2207065394

[Editorial Report] Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean at 1300 GMT on 20 July carries a 52-minute report on memorial services held on 19 July for Kim Il-song in North and South Hamgyong Provinces, North Pyongan Province, and Kaesong.

The announcer reports on the speeches delivered at the services, eulogizing Kim Il-song and praising Kim Chong-il. These include speeches by Yang Tae-yong, secretary of the party committee of North Hamgyong Province, who stresses the need to "loyally and single-heartedly uphold the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il—the outstanding leader [takwolhan yongdoja] of our party, state, and military"; by Kim

Yong-tuk, chairman of the Administrative and Economic Committee of South Hamgyong Province, who recollects Kim Il-song's efforts for the fatherland's reunification; and by (Kim Pyong-hae), secretary of the party committee of North Pyongan Province, who stresses the importance of vigorously marching forward, holding higher the banner of revolution and socialism.

The announcer then introduces a speech by (No Sok-yul), chairman of the North Pyongan provincial chapter of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, who calls Kim Chong-il "the great leader [widaehan suryong], another Hanbyol [Hanbyol means a great star—this title was used only for Kim Il-song]."

The announcer continues to report on a speech by Kim Il-san, chairman of the Administrative and Economic Committee of Kaesong, who urges the entire party, the entire country, and the entire military to "firmly establish the leadership system [yongdo chegye] of the dear comrade leader."

At 1400 GMT on 20 July, Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean carries a 43-minute report on similar memorial services held on 19 July in Chagang Province, Yanggang Province, Kangwon Province, and Nampo.

The announcer introduces speeches delivered at those services, including a speech by (Yi Chong-ho), chairman of the Administrative and Economic Committee of Chagang Province, and by representatives of working class and others in Nampo, Kangwon Province, and Yanggang Province.

South Korea

Kim Il-song Gave 'Instructions' Before Death

SK2207024694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—The late North Korean President Kim Il-song issued a "precious instruction" on ways to advance unification just hours before he died on July 8, Radio Pyongyang said Thursday [21 July].

NAEWOE Press, the official North Korea watcher here, quoted the radio as saying that Kim Il-song "gave the precious instruction even hours before his heart stopped beating."

But the radio did not elaborate on the date, time and contents of the "instruction."

It pledged that North Korea will forever glorify the inheritance Kim Il-song left for the party and the people.

Defense Ministry To Lift Special Alert 23 Jul

SK2207093594 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0900 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] As of 1000 [0100 GMT] on 23 July, the special alert, which was imposed on the entire Army because of Kim Il-song's death, will be completely lifted.

Since there have been no peculiar military moves by North Korea since Kim Il-song's death, the Defense Ministry decided on 22 July to lift the special alert on 23 July and maintain a posture of alert as in normal times.

On 14 July, the Defense Ministry had partially lifted measures on outings and leaves for the officers and men which were prohibited due to the special alert.

DPRK Army 'Partially' Resumes Exercises

SK2107132594 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1221 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] North Korean Army, which suspended all exercises after the announcement of Kim Il-song's death on 9 July, partially resumed exercises on 20 July. According to the ROK Defense Ministry on 21 July, the North Korean Army resumed the exercises of artillery and special units and communication exercises but not very actively. The Defense Ministry said, however, that the North Korean Air Force is continuing its suspension of exercises.

PRC Technicians To Work on Kim Memorial Hall

SK2207104494 Seoul YONHAP in English 1027 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Beijing, July 22 (YONHAP)—China sent about 10 technicians to North Korea on last July 11 at Pyongyang's request to help build a Kim Il-song memorial hall, a Western source here said on Friday.

The source said the technicians will in North Korea work mainly on embalming the remains of Kim Il-song for permanent preservation at a special room of the projected memorial hall.

The Chinese technicians were known to be those who have taken part in the erection of the Mao Zedong memorial hall in the past, the source said.

Already beginning last year, North Korea has secretly introduced high-class construction materials through trade firms in Hong Kong and Macao and the pro-Pyongyang Chongnyon [General Association of Korean Residents in Japan] in Japan for use in the construction of a Kim Il-song memorial hall, the source added.

PRC 'Secretly Dispatched' Delegation to North

SK2207091794 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0800 GMT 22 Jul 94

[YONHAP report from Hong Kong]

[Text] Hong Kong's largest economic daily, HSIN PAO, reported that on the day North Korea announced Kim Il-song's death, China secretly dispatched a three-man high-ranking delegation. The delegation was dispatched after receiving an urgent invitation by North Korea's Workers Party in which China presented a six-point policy on future North Korea-China relations.

In an article datelined in Beijing, HSIN PAO reported that three next-generation leaders—including Ding Guangen, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC—who have risen rapidly recently, visited North Korea and urged North Korea to conduct economic reform, and revise the PRC-DPRK friendship and cooperative treaty, and denuclearization.

It was learned that by succeeding Kim Il-song's will, China demanded that North Korea develop its economy, open up, and denuclearize the Korean peninsula, and asked that it not destroy Asia's security.

Daily Head Plans Beijing Stop After DPRK

SK2207082194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0731 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Beijing, July 22 (YONHAP)—Pak Po-hui, president of the vernacular daily SEGYE TIMES, is scheduled to arrive at Shoudu [Capital] Airport in Beijing Saturday morning after completing his condolence visit to Pyongyang.

Pak, who traveled to Pyongyang to express his sympathy over the death of the late North Korean President Kim Il-song, will arrive in Beijing aboard JS [expansion unknown] flight 151 of Air Korea.

Pak plans to hold a press conference for South Korean correspondents here to explain his visit to Pyongyang, the atmosphere and conditions in North Korea after Kim Il-song's death, and the transition of power to Kim Chong-il.

He is the first South Korean to visit Pyongyang to express condolences over Kim's death.

Meanwhile, National Unification Board Spokesman Kim Hyong-ki said Pak and the members of his group need not apply to visit North Korea if they are U.S. citizens.

Officials have asked through diplomatic channels whether they are American citizens and for now only know that they had U.S. residence permits in 1991.

Sources Say U.S.-DPRK Talks in Early Aug

SK2107233994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
2300 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The United States and North Korea held a working-level contact on 21 July in New York and agreed to resume a third round of high-level talks in Geneva in early August.

Correspondent Nam Son-yon reports from New York:

[Begin Nam recording] The United States and North Korea, at the working-level contact held on the evening of 21 July in New York, agreed to resume the bilateral talks at an early date for the early settlement of the nuclear matter and decided to resume the third round of high-level talks in Geneva in early August.

A well-informed source said Kenneth Quinones, the U.S. State Department's North Korea desk officer, and Han Sung-yol, counselor at the North Korean Mission to the United Nations, agreed to jointly announce the date for the third round of high-level talks in Washington and Pyongyang on 23 July.

Another well-informed source in the United Nations said that North Korea, through telephone contacts that remained open throughout the mourning period for Kim Il-song, strongly hoped for the resumption of the suspended third round of high-level talks. The sources predicted that since today's contact was held upon the request of the North Korean side, the high-level talks would be held earlier than expected and viewed that the Kim Chong-il system has inherited Kim Il-song's way of settling the matter through negotiations. [end Nam recording] 21 JUL 2350z dg

Daily Views Third Round of U.S.-DPRK Talks

SK2207093194 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean
22 Jul 94 p 3

[Editorial: "The First Contact Between the North and the United States after Kim Il-song's Death"]

[Text] It has been reported that at a working-level contact, North Korea and the United States have agreed to resume the third round of high-level talks, which had been suspended, in early August. It is thought that the two sides will remain unchanged in terms of the agenda items and points of argument that they will bring up at the talks. This notwithstanding, the talks attract our attention in that this will be the first contact with North Korea without Kim Il-song. Even though there is no change in the basic position of the new North Korean system, this occasion will serve as an opportunity to sound out if there is any slight sign of change in North Korea's negotiating method, strategy, or tactics.

North Korea has made clear that even if Kim Il-song no longer exists, the condition of the third round of high-level talks—as promised by Kim Il-song during his lifetime—is still in effect. The condition is that if its

relations with the United States improve and the United States supports the building of a light-water reactor, North Korea will freeze its present nuclear development plan. Accordingly, there will be no change in the substance of the negotiations the two sides will conduct.

Also, there will be no change in the cooperative system between the ROK and the United States, which have had close consultations and fine-tuned their policies as to North Korea's nuclear issue, and in the relationships of cooperation between neighboring countries. Assistant Secretary of State Gallucci, U.S. delegate to the high-level talks, has made clear the position to positively study a way to lend support to the ROK in realizing the introduction of a ROK-type light-water reactor [in North Korea]. This issue has been controversial. It is part of an active effort to fine-tune policies between the ROK and the United States.

But, not everything is unchanged. First of all, as the South-North summit talks fell apart following Kim Il-sung's death, the United States is the only remaining window for a contact with North Korea. It was agreed that the U.S. would have contacts with the North, depending upon the progress in the South-North Korean relations. Although there had been ups and downs, such contacts had proceeded in accordance with this principle.

Nonetheless, not only our government, but also North Korea's new system seems to have no intention to hurry up to make contacts between the two sides. The government has once made public its position not to hurry up to realize the summit talks until North Korea's new leadership is stabilized. North Korea's intention not to resume contacts at an early date is also revealed in the way it shows its response—to our side's evaluation of Kim Il-sung's crimes in the Korean war—by denouncing President Kim Yong-sam.

Under these circumstances, the ROK and the United States should solidify their cooperative system more than ever before. It is necessary to get repeated assurances from the United States with a view to having the United States not neglect delving into the transparency of North Korea's past nuclear activities—while finding satisfaction in freezing North Korea's nuclear development plan—at a time when it is tied up in its by-election schedules.

U.S. Officials View Strategy for DPRK Talks

SK2207010494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0053 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—South Korean and U.S. officials went over their strategies Friday [22 July] for the upcoming Pyongyang-Washington high-level dialogue including the method of assistance in replacing North Korea's nuclear reactor system.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci met over breakfast and discussed the outcome of Thursday's North Korea-U.S. working-level contact in New York, sources here said.

Pyongyang and Washington are to announce soon the dates of their high-level dialogue in Geneva.

Han and Gallucci had reaffirmed Thursday that North Korea must freeze its nuclear program in order for diplomatic dialogue to continue. They also maintained that a complete settlement of the North Korean nuclear problem includes the transparency of its past activities as well.

Sources said the two sides agreed in principle in forming an international consortium in aiding North Korea with the reactor replacement to much safer and easier monitored light water system. Seoul wants to provide its own light water reactor system to North Korea but need further consultation with Japan and the United States, sources said.

DPRK Light-Water Reactor Plan Aid Reconfirmed

SK2207031394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0305 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government reconfirmed Friday its position that it would provide technical and financial aid to North Korea's plan to replace the existing graphite-moderated nuclear reactor with a light-water model so that the North Koreans may maintain their policy of freezing the nuclear arms development program.

In a Unification and Security Policy Coordination Council meeting presided over by National Unification Minister Yi Hong-ku, the government also decided that the light-water reactor North Korea will have should be designed and installed by South Korean engineers, with a far-reaching view of building a Korean commonwealth.

The government, judging that full implementation of the joint South-North declaration on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is necessary to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue, discussed seeking ways of resuming inter-Korean dialogue while monitoring the progress of high-level U.S.-North Korea talks to start again early next month.

When North Korea settles on Kim Chong-il's leadership, the government will promote a new inter-Korean summit. If the conditions for staging the summit are not seen as proper soon, Seoul will seek to resume inter-Korean dialogue through different means than a summit.

After the meeting, National Unification Board spokesman Kim Hyong-ki said the discussion dealt with the foreign minister's briefing on the agenda for the coming high-level U.S.-North Korea talks, including

Pyongyang's proposed replacement of its experimental 5-megawatt reactor with a light-water model.

Journalists Favor Promotion of N-S Summit

*SK2107140194 Seoul YONHAP in English 1019 GMT
21 Jul 94*

[Text] Seoul, July 21 (YONHAP)—More than half of South Korean journalists believe that the Seoul government should positively promote an inter-Korean summit meeting with Kim Chong-il as a dialogue partner, a recent poll has disclosed.

Of the 706 unionized press members questioned in a poll taken by the National Federation of Press Unions on July 15-20, 56.9 percent replied that they think Kim Chong-il should be recognized as a dialogue partner and a summit meeting promoted positively. But 41.2 percent said a decision on summit meeting should be made after watching the trend of North Korea's power structure while 0.7 percent said they do not feel any need of an inter-Korean summit.

The journalists questioned belonged to a total of 49 press medias across the country.

On the prospects of inter-Korean relations after the death of Kim Il-song, 57.2 percent said they believe the relationship would turn good and 31.4 percent it would remain unchanged. Only 8.8 percent said it would turn bad.

Of the total pollees, 54.6 percent said they rather favor the Seoul government's expression of condolences over the death of Kim Il-song while 44.8 percent said they were against it.

On the advisability of using the official titles in referring to key North Korean officials, 87.5 percent replied they feel the names of key North Korean officials should be given together with their due official titles. But, 12.2 percent said their titles need not be given.

As to the way South Korean press handled articles about Kim Chong-il, 60.6 percent of the pollees said they think the press failed to present factual things about the new North Korean leader because they tended to depend on "rumors, speculations and prejudice."

DPRK May Open More Ports To Activate Economy

*SK2207075194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0721 GMT
22 Jul 94*

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—North Korea may open the ports of Sinuiju, Wonsan and Nampo—in addition to Najin and Sonbong—in an effort to activate its economy, a specialist on the communist nation predicted Friday.

Dr. Pae Chong-yol of the Export-Import Bank of Korea's Overseas Investment Institute made the prediction after

saying that North Korea, unlike China, is likely to designate open ports and develop them apart from the rest of the country.

Pae is currently participating in the Tuman River development program under the aegis of the United Nations Development Plan (UNDP).

In a lecture entitled "The reality of the North Korean economy and the direction of the Kim Chong-il leadership's external economic policy," delivered to employees of the Export-Import Bank of Korea, Dr. Pae said, "whoever emerges as the ruler following Kim Il-song's death, North Korea has no choice but to open itself further.

"As North Korea's economic recession is caused by structural contradictions," he added, "self-generated economic recovery is virtually impossible."

Whether the North Korean economy recovers in the future, according to Pae, depends largely on aid funds from Japan if Pyongyang and Tokyo normalize relations and South Korean investment and economic assistance, which taken together is estimated at 6 to 10 billion dollars.

Accordingly, he reasoned that "the new North Korean leadership will encounter serious difficulties if the current impasse over the North Korean nuclear issue is prolonged."

Addressing the structural contradictions in the North's economy, Dr. Pae cited the preponderance of political logic in resolving economic issues, reduced zeal for working due to frequent labor mobilization and lack of incentives, abnormal aggrandizement of heavy industries with emphasis on the military, a backward infrastructure, and distorted resources distribution due to the collapse of the planned economy.

Inter-Korean Mail Service Procedures Proposed

*SK1607100394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0758 GMT
16 Jul 94*

[Text] Seoul, July 16 (YONHAP)—South Korean people wishing to send letters to North Korea either for personal regards or business contacts may do so directly through post offices in the South in the future, a Communications Ministry official said Saturday.

So far, no post offices in the country have accepted mails addressed to North Korea under the law on temporary control of postal matters enacted in 1948.

"Legally our post offices have been enabled to handle postal matters addressed to North Korea with the repeal of the law on temporary postal control last month," the official said.

However, any one wishing to exchange postal matters with North Korean residents should obtain an advance permission from the National Unification Board under

the provisions of the law on South-North exchanges and cooperation enforced in 1990.

The official said that since there is no conduit for the exchange of postal matters between the two Koreas, North Korea-bound postal goods received will be transferred to a third country like Japan or China for delivery to North Korea.

Even though mails originating in South Korea were taken to North Korea through a third country, there is no way to know if the North would deliver them to their addressees, he said.

"Under the circumstances, the probability is that mails exchangeable between the two sides will in the initial stage be industrial mails for the exchange of commodities or business deals," the official said.

Inter-Korean commodity exchanges and other business deals have thus far been made through negotiations or the exchange of mails made in third countries like Japan, Hong Kong and China.

Footage, Photographs of Kim Chong-il Analyzed

SK2107145094 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1217 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Kim Chong-il's complexion during his appearance on recent television footage was so haggard that speculations on his illness are growing. Compared to last year, his eye movements are slower and his weight is remarkably reduced. Some people believe that he is probably seriously ill. The following is a report by Ko Tae-yong:

[Begin recording] [Ko Tae-yong] Kim Chong-il looked haggard when he made his official appearance on 11 July for the first time after the death of Kim Il-song. One week later, at the funeral service, his complexion was still very emaciated even considering the fact that he was the main mourner. At the 20 July memorial service, it was apparent, at first sight, that Kim Chong-il was ill.

Compared with the photograph taken 15 months ago in April 1993, it is obvious that Kim Chong-il's complexion has definitely changed. Specialists diagnosed that Kim Chong-il may suffer from a degenerative disease, such as a heart problem or diabetes, judging from the fact that the complexion has drastically changed in such a short period.

[Yun Pang-pu, professor of Yonsei Medical School] As you can see on television, he has lost a lot of weight. From the medical point of view, it is significant if one loses more than 4.5 kg in three to six months. At least, he is suffering from diabetes, liver trouble, and cirrhosis of the liver.

[Ko] A defector, who saw Kim Chong-il from close-up, agreed to the medical diagnosis.

[Kim Chong-min, formerly a cadre of the organization department of the North Korean Workers Party of

Korea] It is true that he is not in good health. I heard that his heart disease was worsening and he was suffering from stomach problems due to his diet in his younger days.

[Ko] It was also very unusual that North Korean broadcast stations mentioned Kim Chong-il's health directly using the word health during the mourning period on 17 July. Judging from these points, it is certain that Kim Chong-il's health is not normal. Some people, however, suspect that Kim Chong-il may have appeared sick at the funeral and memorial services not because of his health but because of other objectives. Some people analyze that he deliberately made up the haggard look to clear up the suspicion over the cause of Kim Il-song's death, and to internally and externally show that he was deeply mourning, as a son, his parent's death. [end recording]

National Assembly Observes Constitution Day

SK1707062194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0607 GMT 17 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 17 (YONHAP)—The nation observed the 46th Constitution Day Sunday in a ceremony held at the National Assembly.

The ceremony was attended by assembly Speaker Hwang Nak-chu, Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok, Chief Justice Yun Kwan, Democratic Liberal Party Chairman Kim Chong-pil and about 300 other senior government officials and political figures.

In a commemorative address, Speaker Hwang said the past 46-year chapter of the nation's constitutional history had been stained with all sorts of trials, errors and blurs.

"Since the birth of the civilian-led government, however, we have been resolutely carving out those social evils that had mushroomed under the past authoritarian regimes," he said.

About 1,100 people were invited to the ceremony but many politicians failed to show up for one reason and another.

Lawmakers Take Overseas Trips Despite Criticism

SK2207063394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0606 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—Overseas trips are all the rage again among lawmakers during the political summer vacation.

The legislators had previously been hesitant to make overseas trips in the whirlwind of the new government's audit and inspection drive, reform policies and the disclosure of assets owned by public officials.

Well over one-third of National Assemblymen have either taken overseas trips or are to leave soon and the number will be increasing, taking into account those traveling privately.

The rush to travel overseas has come under criticism as the lawmakers leave the country and turn their attention away from major state affairs at home and abroad—the rapid leadership changes in North Korea since the death of Kim Il-song, the serious drought affecting the southern part of the nation and the Aug. 2 by-elections in three districts.

As of Friday [22 July] morning, 88 legislators had officially reported overseas trips, with the number planning similar travel increasing in late July and August.

More opposition and independent lawmakers, in particular, are heading overseas compared to their ruling party counterparts in proportion to their seats in the National Assembly.

National Assembly Secretariat statistics reveal that it has received reports of overseas trip from 40 legislators of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], followed by 41 members of the opposition Democratic Party [DP] and seven independent lawmakers.

Ruling DLP Chairman Kim Chong-pil urged his party's lawmakers to refrain from traveling overseas for personal reasons or with spouses, trips considered basically unofficial or unnecessary.

Despite the party's entreaty, the DLP floor leader's office seems unsure about how to treat these lawmakers.

Growing signs of disharmony are appearing among party members as some, particularly those from rural districts, cancel their planned trips in light of such rural problems as the expected impact of the Uruguay Round and the severe drought.

But a considerable number of lawmakers have already traveled to foreign countries, many as soon as the extraordinary parliamentary session closed last week.

Rep. Kim Won-ung of the DP visited the European countries of Great Britain, France, Germany and Switzerland on an inspection and study tour. Rep. Kim Chong-su of the DLP returned home from a trip to Japan.

Rep. Kim Sang-hyon, currently under public fire for receiving political funds, visited Japan for five days and is now traveling in China with his colleagues to attend a seminar.

Also currently abroad are Reps. Choe Chae-sung, Yu In-hak, Kim Pong-ho, Kim Tong-kwon, Yi Hae-ku, Chong Chang-hyon and Kang Sin-ok.

Eight members of the Transportation Committee are touring Europe in a group and will return home on Saturday.

Agriculture-Fisheries Committee members also plan to begin an overseas trip to Europe from Saturday lasting a fortnight.

President Kim Visits Drought-Stricken Area

SK2207081294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT
22 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam on Friday morning visited the drought-stricken Haman area of South Kyongsang Province to cheer up farmers and officials battling the longest dry spell in decades.

Meeting farmers pumping up water from 200 meters under the ground, the chief executive said, "heaven helps those who help themselves, and I'm sure heaven will help us fight this drought with all our wisdom, labor and equipment."

"The water shortage we're suffering is evidence that we've failed to make sufficient preparations for dry weather," he noted, instructing the officials accompanying him to draw up an overall anti-drought plan.

This was the president's second visit to a drought-hit area in a week, the first being to Kangjin, South Cholla Province, last Saturday.

While flying to Haman by helicopter, he told the accompanying officials, "I wish I could make this visit by car amid a downpour now."

In a related development, the economic planning minister presided over a meeting of economic ministers Friday afternoon to discuss measures against the worsening damage to farm crops caused by the drought.

It was decided at the meeting to release 24 billion won (30 million U.S. dollars) in contingency funds to drought-stricken areas, in addition to the 6 billion won already released to such areas.

With the funds, farmers in these areas will dig 200 meters underground in search of water sources and buy pumps with which to bring up the water.

At the meeting, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Choe In-ki said that as of Thursday, farming fields covering a total area of 88,000 hectares had been irrigated by use of 407,000 pumps and 866,000 people.

On Saturday, Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok will also preside over a meeting of related ministers to discuss across-the-board measures against the dry spell.

6.1 Percent of Rice Paddies Stricken by Drought

SK2007130594 Seoul YONHAP in English 1244 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—Farm crops are being ruined rapidly by the scorching heat that has been sweeping southern Korea for more than 20 days.

Rice paddies dried up amounted to 66,300 hectares or 6.1 percent of the total area of rice paddies as of Wednesday [20 July], the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry said.

The drought-hit area represents a rise of 13,000 hectares in a single day over Tuesday.

Of the stricken area, rice withered on 500 hectares. It was 300 hectares on Tuesday, the ministry said.

In South Cholla Province 32,000 hectares or 16.3 percent of the total rice paddies were hit by the drought and in South Kyongsang Province, the stricken rice paddies extended to 23,300 hectares or 17.5 percent.

In North Cholla Province the rice paddies stricken totaled 11,700 hectares, 5,000 hectares more than Tuesday.

The dry fields where crops were damaged due to the drought reached 36,266 hectares, up 37.6 percent over Tuesday. The area included 24,080 hectares in South Cholla Province and 6,690 hectares in South Kyongsang Province.

In addition, 372,600 chicken and 3,300 head of pigs died of heat across the country, the ministry said.

Government May Store Imported Rice

SK2207022994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0213 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—The government has decided to consider storing imported rice in the public granary instead of using it for making processed food to cope with an anticipated bad crop this year following a prolonged drought, government officials said on Friday.

Vice Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Yi Sok-chae told a meeting of the grain distribution committee that the ministry is pushing for ways to minimize farmers' damage inflicted by the continuing dry spell. The committee consists of university professors and members of farmers' organizations.

Officials of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry told the committee that the self-supply rate of rice is expected to drop from 96.8 percent last year to 87.8 percent this year. So far a surplus stockpile of rice has made supply surpass demand, but the government's rice reserve is expected to decrease from the current 1.2 million tons to 936,000 tons in late October this year to put the supply and demand in equilibrium.

But if the drought continues longer than expected, the supply will fall far short of the demand. So the ministry is actively studying ways to use the rice to be imported in the future to make up for the possible shortage or save it for emergency use.

The government originally planned to use imported rice to make processed food rather than directly sell it to the people.

Meanwhile, officials said that the whole grain production would reach 5,461,000 tons this year while consumption is expected to amount to 18,856,000 tons. So the self-supply rate of grains may fall from last year's 33.9 percent to 29 percent this year, they said.

The grain production dropped last year due to cool weather while the demand for grains continued to increase. If this year's drought lower the grain production by around 10 percent from last year, the self-supply rate of grains will fall to 26-27 percent, officials said.

Decision Reached on Digging Irrigation Wells

SK2007114794 Seoul YONHAP in English 1123 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—The administration and ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] decided on Wednesday [20 July] to explore deep irrigation wells to help farmers fight persisting drought.

At a joint administration-party session, the ruling camp decided to mobilize all the deep-well drills in the possession of the military and private companies for use in digging irrigation wells.

The meeting resolved to provide 15 billion won out of the government's reserve funds to finance well drilling.

"We have decided to dig 500 deep wells in the southern areas hardest-hit by the present drought," said Yi Sang-tuk, head of the Policy Coordination Office of the ruling party.

A comprehensive anti-drought plan is expected to be prepared based on Wednesday's decision at a meeting of working-level officials from the Economic Planning Board, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry, Defense Ministry and other relevant government offices on Friday.

"We further agreed to review the possibility of dredging about 3,000 reservoirs which have already dried or are drying up in the severe drought," Yi said.

Reportage on Hyundai Lockout, Strike

Lockout Likely 'Next Week'

SK1607031694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0248 GMT 16 Jul 94

[Text] Ulsan, South Kyongsang Province, July 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea's biggest shipbuilder might resort to a lockout next week.

Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., which has been hit by a labor dispute for 23 days, plans to decide on a lockout next week, a senior executive said Saturday.

Hyundai officials said a closure was possible because Hyundai Business Group Chairman Chong Se-yong clarified on July 12 that such action was inevitable if

labor-management negotiations were not settled. Since then, the negotiations have not made any progress, they said.

The 21,500-strong trade union is demanding a progressive retirement pay system, a 40-hour workweek, reinstatement of those fired for their involvement in the union and equal union-management representation on the company's disciplinary committee.

Since the union has decided to begin an overall strike on July 21, the company is likely to institute a lockout around that date, according to the executive.

The shipbuilder's exports reached about 2.3 billion U.S. dollars last year and total sales amounted to roughly 3.4 billion dollars. The company has about 26,000 workers.

Ministry Intervention Possible

SK1907023794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0221 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 19 (YONHAP)—The Labor Ministry will study invoking its emergency mediation rights to resolve the labor dispute at Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. (HHI) if no signs of settlement appear this week, the ministry said Tuesday.

The ministry said strong action is inevitable if negotiation fails to make any progress this week in order to prevent further damage.

According to the law, the government can form an emergency mediation committee to present an adjusted proposal that is acceptable to both the company and the union.

The labor union of Korea's biggest shipbuilder has been staging a limited strike and plans to launch a general work stoppage from July 21, ministry officials said.

The ministry will consult the Trade, Industry and Energy Ministry to decide whether to invoke its emergency mediation rights, after studying the results of the union's dispute committee meeting slated for Wednesday.

The ministry said it is concerned that other Hyundai subsidiaries, including Hyundai Pipe Co. and Hyundai Mipo Dockyard Co., may ape the union action at HHI and launch joint strikes.

The 21,500-strong trade union is demanding a progressive retirement pay system, a 40-hour workweek, reinstatement of those fired for union involvement and equal union-management representation on the company's disciplinary committee.

The shipbuilder's exports reached about 2.3 billion U.S. dollars last year and total sales amounted to roughly 3.4 billion dollars. The company has about 26,000 workers.

Government To Leave Hyundai Dispute to Management

SK2207112694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0844 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—The government on Friday decided against intervening in the labor dispute at Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. (HHI) for the time being, preferring to leave the matter to labor and management in the hope that they can find a fundamental solution to the industrial relations at the company, whose workers have staged strikes virtually every year since 1987.

The decision came at a joint meeting of officials from concerned government agencies including the prime minister's office, the Economic Planning Board, the Ministries of Labor, Home Affairs, Justice and Trade, Industry and Energy, the prosecution and police.

"Solving the problem by employing public forces and using the government right to urgently intervene in labor disputes would just be a makeshift solution which cannot prevent a recurrence of the same dispute the following year. The chain of aggravated labor disputes cannot be disconnected (by such makeshift solutions)," said a high-ranking government official who attended the meeting.

"A fundamental solution would be that unionists are so deeply aware of the sense of crisis created by strikes that they could not easily join strikes," said the official.

The officials agreed the government should make sure that Hyundai management strictly abides by the "no-work-no-wage" principle during the strike period as well as the lockout period.

They shared the view that the no-work-no-wage principle would hit striking workers in the pocketbook, especially if the strike were prolonged even further, and subsequently create an atmosphere in which strikes would be settled early through negotiation.

Despite the government's decision to refrain from interceding in the Hyundai dispute, there are fears that the prolonged dispute at HHI could lead to joint strikes by Hyonchongnyon, the alliance of unions from the Hyundai business group.

To head off the adverse effect on the country's economy of any large-scale strikes, the government should take a tough stance such as deploying security forces and using its right to intervene in labor disputes, some hard-line officials insist.

The government, in the meantime, will take legal action against 25 HHI union leaders, against whom HHI management has filed a complaint with law enforcement authorities for breaking the law while staging sit-ins at an LNG [Liquefied Natural Gas] carrier and large cranes, according to government sources.

In Ulsan, HHI management on Friday filed another complaint with the police seeking punishment of 16 union leaders for their roles in leading HHI workers into their workplace early Thursday morning, although labor dispute laws prevent workers from entering their workplaces during a lockout period.

More than 1,000 unionized workers continued to stage sit-in protests at the LNG carrier, a Goliath crane and a Jib crane Friday while over 6,000 workers rallied at the HHI yard protesting against the lockout.

The rallying workers decided not to sit at the negotiating table unless management lifts the lockout, threatening to stage street rallies and occupy public buildings in Ulsan city if police raid their workplace.

The leader of the HHI Union, Yi Kap-yong, for the first time since the company management announced a lockout three days ago, met with HHI President Kim Chong-kuk from about 10:30 A.M. at the president's office to seek a solution to the labor-management deadlock.

During the 90-minute talks, the two failed to agree on ending the strike and instead decided to meet again later in the day, fueling hope that they could find a breakthrough in the stalemate.

Union leader Yi insisted that management lift the lockout before a resumption of any negotiations while HHI President Kim was adamant on resuming negotiations "under the current situation".

'Ideologically Contaminated Students' Discussed

SK2107140294 Seoul YONHAP in English 1136 GMT
21 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 21 (YONHAP)—A group of Sogang University professors vowed on Thursday to be more positive in properly guiding ideologically contaminated students in the future, saying that they feel responsible for the radical activities of student activists.

The pledge came amid controversies developing over the remarks made recently by Sogang University President Pak Hong to the effect that North Korea's Kim Chong-il is behind the "chuche thought faction" of the Hanchongnyon organization.

Twenty-six professors of the university's Business Administration College deplored in a press conference that "leftist sentiments and the violent pattern of conducts on the part of some students have gone beyond the limit of social tolerance."

They said it is a well-known fact that the method of radical students' contentions and agitation is almost in accord with that of North Korea.

"We are voicing our position since we believe our continued silence over the latest development on heels of

Kim Il-song's death amounts to the abandonment of our intellectuals' social responsibility," the professors said in a statement.

*** Attributes of Conglomerate-Dominated System**

942C0127A Seoul SINDONG-A in Korean Jun 94 pp
228-239

[By SNU Professor Yi Sung-hun]

[Excerpts] It is this writer's understanding that the ultimate objective of the administration's economic policy is to enable us to deal effectively with the competition between nations, which will grow fiercer in the future, by reforming the conditions of industrial activity and promoting maximum efficiency, enabling us to make the most of our capabilities. As a concrete plan for accomplishing this, the administration is carrying out operations, such as the big-business training of government employees, privatization of city banks, attraction of private investment in indirect social capital, consideration of privatization of public enterprises, and relaxation of regulations on business activity, to widely spread to all sectors of the national economy the efficiency of private industry.

With the conglomerates leading private industry, it is clear that, ultimately, this administration policy for strengthening national competitiveness will be largely dependent on the conglomerates and will develop in a direction more supportive of their activities. It appears, however, that while only greatly expanding the conglomerates' sphere of activity, it is reducing the government's role of regulating their activities. Thus, many view the administration's policy with concern for its pro-conglomerate character.

Humanity has yet to experience a more efficiently-moving economy than one lead by the private sector. There is no question that the ultimate direction of the economic policy is to relax regulation of business activity and to convert all sectors of the national economy to management by the private sector as far as possible.

However, in consideration of the fact that the conglomerate issue is one of only a few serious problems capable of essentially damaging the stability of our society in the future, it must be pointed out that the direction of the economic policy presently being pursued by the administration, despite its fundamental validity, is a cause of no less concern. [passage omitted]

It is no exaggeration to say that our nation's conglomerate-dominated industrial structure is a direct result of industrial policy implemented to promote industrial development. [passage omitted]

Questions now being raised about our nation's conglomerate-dominated industrial structure are varied, but generally can be divided into the following five categories. First, in the production of the same types of merchandise, is a structured economy growing efficiently?

Second, is the diversification developing across many types of industry actually blessed with economy? Third, it is pointed out that, exercising tremendous power to dominate the marketplace, conglomerates are lowering subcontract prices and raising product prices, earning excessive, monopolistic profits. Fourth, it is pointed out that these dinosaur-sized conglomerates are enjoying improper advantages in their procurement of bank funding by using abnormal methods, such as mutual payment guarantees. Fifth, it is pointed out that conglomerate ownership of is excessively concentrated in the heads of the conglomerates and their families.

What is more, some even raise the criticism that conglomerates neglect technological development and other activities for healthy development, going after financial techniques and real estate speculation. However, rather than holding the conglomerates behaving this way responsible for this situation, these critics should call policymakers to account for creating conditions which cause the conglomerates to act this way. [passage omitted]

Has the present production scale of domestic conglomerates grown so huge as to go beyond its economy? If we study a few industries known to have profitable mass-production systems according to economy of scale, we can see that this is not the case.

Looking by industry at a ratio of the average total assets of U.S. and Japanese enterprises divided by the average total assets of our country's conglomerates, in 1990, the shipping and general machine industries were 4.07; the steel industry, 3.04; the automobile industry, 13.41, the electronics industry, 10.43; and the chemical industry, 11.11. Thus, given their by-item production scale, our country's conglomerates, when viewed internationally, still remain at a conspicuously insignificant level.

There are going to be exceptions to this in the case of a few enterprises, but it suggests that our country's conglomerates, by much expanding their scale of production, will be able to enjoy greater economic advantages of scale in the new international economic order of free trade to develop in the future. Therefore, we cannot view as valid the criticism that the present production scale of the conglomerates has been excessively expanded, going beyond the degree appropriate for the economy.

The diversification coming about all across the spectrum of both related and many unrelated industries has been indiscriminate to the degree that it goes beyond "economies of scope." Is it desirable for the conglomerate groups, which have already reached dinosaur scale, to insatiably expand the sphere of their business without discriminating between areas?

Even if not the conglomerate groups, which advertised that the names of the products they produce include everything beginning with all the letters from A to Z, the diversification phenomenon of domestic conglomerates is so florid as to be dizzying. The industries into which they are making inroads, all sectors of the manufacturing

industry, department stores, leisure facilities, and even newspaper publishing, are so varied that the expression, octopus-armed expansion, is an insufficient metaphor. [passage omitted]

What are some plans for eradicating the monopolistic abuses of the conglomerates? For this, we need to examine the question, dividing it into the problems appearing in the process of selling the conglomerate's products to consumers and those appearing in the process of the conglomerates being supplied by small- and medium-sized enterprises.

It is a well-known fact that, making use in the past of their dominant position in the domestic market beneath a wall of high protective tariffs, the conglomerates have sold their products at fixed monopolistic prices well above the international price. With this, the monopolistic actions were even somewhat justified as compensation for losses suffered in exports conducted even though reasonable profits could not be guaranteed in a state in which international competitiveness had not sufficiently matured. However, inasmuch as this directly forced the consuming public to suffer losses, it could not avoid becoming the target of public condemnation. It is a fact that most of the negative perception of conglomerations held by the public is due to just such monopolistic actions.

Even now, with tariffs not completely removed, the domestic price of various electronics, cars, and other products (even excluding consumption and other taxes) is at a level very much higher than the price of the same products, exported and sold on the American market. However, these conglomerate monopolies will have the area in which they can be maintained greatly reduced in the future, when the WTO (World Trade Organization) era begins and domestic markets are completely opened. Thus, the problem will ultimately be resolved sooner or later.

This is because domestic monopolies will actually fall to the position of small- and medium-sized enterprises when all the walls disappear and foreign-made merchandise comes pouring in. Therefore, now is not the time to be concerned over the domestic market's high rate of concentration. Rather, we must be concerned over the production scale of our relatively small conglomerates, who must join in a contest of strength with foreign super conglomerates.

Another problem related to the conglomerates' dominance of the market is seen in their relationship with small- and medium-sized businesses. Producing and supplying parts needed for the production of the conglomerates, small- and medium-sized businesses play a pivotal role in raising the quality of the products of big business and in elevating the production process of domestic manufacturers. [passage omitted]

For improving the international competitiveness of our products in the future, although it is also important to further expand the production scale of the conglomerates

and make use of the advantages of a large-scale economy, it is more important to support small- and medium-sized businesses, which are at an absolute disadvantage in their relationships with conglomerates.

Looking at it from the aspect of nurturing industry, the government has been concentrating on horizontal expansion of the area of business in the manufacturing sector. It can be said, however, that from now on, we urgently need to deepen this, going up vertically. Now capable to a certain degree, the conglomerates must concentrate their powers on providing their own funding support and technical guidance for affiliated small- and medium-sized businesses, separate from governments support measures. [passage omitted]

Going by experience, the profit rates of conglomerates are more stable than those of small- and medium-sized businesses. On top of this, the great scale of conglomerates is more effective in attracting the capital of investors. Of course, we cannot apply this analysis to our reality without revision. However, just because it happens to be our country, does not mean there is a basis by which it would appear that big business should be at an especially greater disadvantage in procuring capital than small- and medium-sized business. In our country too, it appears the analysis will be commonly accepted that in funding-procurement costs, conglomerates are placed in a situation more advantageous than that of small- and medium-sized businesses.

Moreover, the domestic financial practice of demanding a real estate mortgage or the payment guarantee of another enterprise concerning a loan cannot but be beneficial to the conglomerates, with their enormous properties and many subsidiaries. It is not in the least bit strange then that conglomerates in such conditions have been allotted bank credit above the scale of their economic activities.

This does not mean, however, that we can just criticize the conglomerates for having actively monopolized bank credit. Rather, it is correct to explain that businesses have fought to form conglomerates because policy and the system have been operated in such a way that the conglomerate system has been advantageous for business activity.

Lastly, is the conglomerates' structure of ownership, which is concentrated in the hands of the conglomerate head, who is the dominant stockholder, and his family? Looking at the top ten conglomerates of 1987, the conglomerate heads control an average of 60.7 percent of shares, including their own shares, those of their relatives, and those of subsidiaries controlled by them. Controlling an absolutely high percentage of shares, the corporate owner controls management of the business. Only two companies, Kia Industries and Yuhan Yanghaeng, are exceptions to this. Our reality, in which, despite their great scale, almost all conglomerates are thoroughly dominated through ownership, is unique in

the international community, making it difficult to find a similar case. [passage omitted]

As was already pointed out, there can be no mistaking that the present conglomerates are the products of the devoted work of their heads. It cannot be denied, however, that in this process tremendous national support was provided in a discriminating, concentrated way. Thus, despite the fact that the assets presently possessed by the conglomerate heads are legally all theirs, objections can be raised on moral grounds as to whether this is necessarily the case.

The explosive labor troubles occurring since 1987 can also be understood in this context. As has been seen in various opinion polls, the majority of the public have a not-too-good image of the conglomerates. This is a result of condemnation of their monopolistic abuses and denunciation of their concentration of ownership.

Even excluding from the discussion questions on the moral legitimacy of the present ownership-distribution structure, people with fresh memories of the last election, in which the conglomerates, based on their economic power, tried to advance even onto the political stage, are concerned about the concentration of economic power around the conglomerate heads. [passage omitted] If, unable to alleviate the extent of ownership concentration, the administration's economic policy unfolds in a direction which only increases the relative importance of conglomerates to the national economy, much friction will result, making it difficult to be optimistic about the successful execution of such policy.

The present conglomerate-dominated industrial structure, caused by past economic-development policy, is at the same time our economy's strength and its weakness. With the need for strengthening national competitiveness growing at an unprecedented rate, economic policy must be pursued in a direction which makes use of our economy's strengths while supplementing and reorganizing its weakness. The policy direction of the present administration, however, appears to be conscious only of the strengths of a conglomerate-dominated system, overlooking the fact that its weaknesses are being amplified. This is causing concern.

This must be stressed. Whether conglomerate, small- or medium-sized business, the business objective of a private enterprise is not to strengthen national competitiveness. To put it more concretely, within a permissible limit, a business' activities are carried on for the profit of the person(s) controlling them. For such business activity to move in a direction which improves national competitiveness, special conditions are needed.

At a time when there is an urgent need to expand business scale through increased capital, even if it means reducing the percentage of shares of the dominant shareholder, if after the expansion the dominant shareholder is going to feel that his personal profits have been reduced due to his control of a lower percentage of shares, there will never be an expansion of scale for

strengthening competitiveness. Even if conglomerate support measures toward the spare-parts industry result in a large increase in the total value-added production amount of that industry, if the profits coming into the conglomerates themselves are not that great, they will not feel a strong desire to take such measures.

The cardinal point of the administration's economic policy is to direct the situation so as to enable the promotion of private-sector efficiency in areas from which participation has been excluded by permitting advances into those areas by the conglomerates.

However, even if the conglomerates have stored up sufficient capital, will they be able to do all at once the various projects which will take a great deal of money: greatly expand existing scale of production, increase investment in research and development, take over bank stocks possessed by the government, participate in the modernization of the distribution industry, provide support for affiliated small- and medium-sized businesses, receive the transfer of public enterprises, and participate in the construction of indirect social capital? What will they do when, unable to handle this with only their own internal, accumulated capital, they also need external loans? Will the loans of the financial world again be allotted to the conglomerates in a concentrated manner? Or, will a formula for increasing capital be considered, which mobilizes public savings by offering new stocks for public subscription, even if it means lowering the percentage of shares held by the conglomerate heads? In this case, what will happen if the conglomerate heads ultimately reject the public subscription of new stocks?

It is a miscalculation to think that we can increase national competitiveness merely by privatizing sectors into which private enterprises have been unable to venture. If such privatization results in an even greater concentration of economic power centered around the conglomerate heads, there is a high probability it would have adverse effects by causing needless friction. Moreover, if the situation is such that the work of reorganizing industrial structure will be possible only if the nation's accumulated wealth is maximally mobilized, then it will be extremely difficult to carry out the work of reorganization while maintaining intact the present structure of concentrated ownership.

This writer believes it will be difficult for the conglomerate groups, with their present system of ownership, to carry out all these tasks as the administration desires. As long as these various high-profitability industries are all displayed before their eyes, the conglomerates are also unlikely to offer substantial capital and technical support to small- and medium-sized affiliates. Even if things were to materialize as the administration desires, if the ownership of the conglomerates, whose relative importance to the national economy will only increase, continues as always to be concentrated in the hands of a minority of dominant shareholders, our society may once again be caught up in a vicious struggle for income redistribution.

Only if the rising importance of the conglomerates to the national economy appears together with the mitigation of their concentrated ownership will it be accepted without much trouble by the public. And only in this situation will it be possible to maximally mobilize the accumulated wealth of the nation needed for the reorganization of the industrial structure.

This writer believes that in order to realize the administration's policy goals as planned, its policies will have to be carried out together with the following measures.

First, excluding cases for which it is inevitable, alleviate the money demand predicted to increase explosively by delaying the plan to privatize public enterprises. Second, open a door by which it will be possible to mobilize accumulated national wealth by pursuing a policy which breaks up the ownership concentration of the conglomerates. Third, establish and implement a concrete support plan capable of giving substantial help to small- and medium-sized business in financing and technology.

The first two supplement existing policy, effectively spreading the efficiency of the conglomerates to other sectors. The last suggestion would further raise the efficiency of big business activity by creating an advanced infrastructure. This is to say, because it is impossible to get the expected results with only unilateral support for the activities of the conglomerates, while adequately regulating conglomerate ownership structure, part of the support should be used exclusively to support small- and medium-sized businesses active in a supplementary relationship with the conglomerates.

Source Cited on Kim-Murayama Seoul Summit

SK2107123794 Seoul YONHAP in English 1133 GMT
21 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 21 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam is set to have a summit meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama in Seoul on Saturday.

A diplomatic source said Thursday that at the Chongwadae [presidential offices] summit the two leaders are expected to discuss ways to further promote their friendly cooperative relations and exchange opinions on the latest developments in Northeast Asia and elsewhere in the world.

"The coming summit is highly significant since it is the first Korea-Japan summit since the birth of a new Tokyo Administration headed by the Socialist Party president and also since the death of North Korea's Kim Il-song," the source said.

On Saturday evening, Murayama will attend an official dinner hosted by President Kim at Chongwadae.

The two leaders will have a working breakfast at Chongwadae Sunday morning before Murayama returns to Tokyo later in the day.

Murayama will be accompanied to his Seoul visit by Yohei Kono, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Seoul-Beijing Aviation Talks Planned

*SK1607102194 Seoul YONHAP in English 1001 GMT
16 Jul 94*

[Text] Beijing, July 16 (YONHAP)—A South Korea-China aviation meeting designed to wind up long dragged-on talks on the issue of opening a direct air route between Seoul and Beijing, is taking place in Seoul on July 20-21.

A government source here said a Chinese delegation comprising officials from the Foreign Ministry, China Civil Aviation Bureau and Transportation Ministry would leave for Seoul on July 19.

"Chances are greater than before for the two countries to strike an agreement at the upcoming meeting as China, too, feels the need to open a Seoul-Beijing route early," the source said.

China is expected to display a flexible attitude at the Seoul meeting, the source said, adding the Beijing authorities were known to have recently advised Chinese negotiators not to be concerned about trivial interests and to have talks from a broad-minded approach.

Canadian Foreign Minister on DPRK Assistance

*SK2207055494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0530 GMT
22 Jul 94*

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—Canada is willing to participate in an international assistance program for North Korea once suspicions over its nuclear program are cleared up, Foreign Minister Andre Ouellet said Friday.

Meeting reporters after talks with his South Korean counterpart Han Sung-chu, Ouellet said he was told North Korea-U.S. nuclear negotiations will resume soon.

"I have indicated that at the end of this, it will be necessary to establish a program of cooperation among a number of countries... a multilateral approach" to North Korea's development, Ouellet said.

"There is a reward that has to follow" once North Korea accepts and cooperates with international demands for transparency in its covert nuclear activities, he said.

"We will be willing, in conjunction, in cooperation with South Korea, to implement a program of development to assist the people of North Korea," Ouellet told reporters.

The Canadian foreign minister came to Seoul Thursday for a four-day visit that includes talks with business leaders as well as the defense and unification ministers.

He emphasized the economic aspect of South Korea-Canada relations, especially Seoul's ratification of the Uruguay Round agreement.

The two countries agreed earlier to form a "special partnership" to put up a united front as "middle" countries as opposed to advanced nations.

Considering this special partnership, "we want to see implementation of the GATT agreement done as early as possible," the foreign minister said.

Nevertheless, he went on to specify what he called "irritants" in bilateral trade relations: South Korea's "discrimination" against canola and feed barley from Canada.

There is a "discrepancy of over 10 percent" in tariffs between Canadian canola and a similar product, soybeans, from the United States, he said, and Canada wants to export its feed barley to South Korea.

"What we are asking for is not favors," Ouellet said. "We want the same open market for our products given to Korean products in Canada."

Offers ROK More Market Access

*SK2207075994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0705 GMT
22 Jul 94*

[Text] Seoul, July 22 (YONHAP)—Canadian Foreign Minister Andre Ouellet asked South Korea Friday to offer wider market access to his country's products.

Here on a four-day visit, Ouellet asked Seoul to rectify the tariff that levies 10 percent more on Canadian canola than on a similar product, American soybeans.

He requested that Seoul import Canadian feed barley even if on a quota basis of around 30,000 tons, but South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said his government can consider importing only up to 10,000 tons, Ministry Spokesman Chang Ki-ho said.

Han and Ouellet agreed that work on establishing a "special partnership" was progressing satisfactorily. The partnership covers trade and political relations to put up a united front as "middle countries" standing between developing and superpower nations.

Han briefed Ouellet on recent events on the Korean peninsula such as the sudden death of North Korean leader Kim Il-song and where the nuclear problem stands, the spokesman said.

He said the foreign ministers discussed the prospects for next week's Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) ministerial conference and the ASEAN regional forum, the first gathering of Asia-Pacific foreign ministers to discuss common security concerns.

Quadilateral Commission To Promote Projects

*SK2007093594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0815 GMT
20 Jul 94*

[Text] Seoul, July 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea and three other Northeast Asian countries—China, Russia and Mongolia—agreed recently to set up a commission to discuss and coordinate regional economic development projects such as the Tumen River Area Development Plan (TRADP), the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday [20 July].

The four nations decided to establish the Northeast Asia Commission (NAC) during the fourth round of TRADP working-level meetings held in Moscow from July 11-15, according to a ministry spokesman who added that the four agreed to later consider the views of Pyongyang, which failed to send a delegation to the Moscow meeting in the wake of Kim Il-song's death.

South Korea, China and Mongolia agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding on preserving the environment during the process of developing in the region, the spokesman said.

The participating countries also decided to scrap the 30-billion-dollar master plan for regional development and to adopt a new "progressive harmonization" development strategy in which they will begin with feasibility studies.

Scholar in Ethiopia Escapes North Koreans

*SK2207115694 Seoul YONHAP in English 1148 GMT
22 Jul 94*

[Text] Cairo, July 22 (YONHAP)—A South Korean scholar in Ethiopia narrowly escaped a kidnap attempt by North Koreans late last month, security sources at the South Korean Consulate General here in Cairo said Friday.

The sources said that Mr. Yi Chin-sang, age 40, who works as a contract professor at Addis Ababa University, was about to be carried away in a car by a group of North Koreans on last June 23 when he barely managed to escape the kidnap attempt with the help of some indigenous people.

A North Korean man, the sources said, has been listed as missing after he, who was taking refuge in Ethiopia from civil-war-torn Yemen, unsuccessfully sought an asylum at the mission of a third country.

The North Koreans seemingly tried to abduct Prof. Yi in retaliation of the missing of the man, which the North

Koreans apparently believed was the work of South Korean agents, the sources said.

Seoul Likely To Remain EU's GSP Beneficiary

*SK1807084894 Seoul YONHAP in English 0638 GMT
18 Jul 94*

[Text] Seoul, July 18 (YONHAP)—South Korea is likely to remain a beneficiary of the European Union's [EU] Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) until at least 1997, the Foreign Ministry said Monday [18 July].

The EU commission briefed all GSP beneficiaries last week on the outline of its long-term GSP operating plan and affirmed that no country will be completely graduated from the benefits during the plan's first phase from 1995 to 1997, ministry Spokesman Chang Ki-ho said.

But the new operating plan calls for modifications ahead, according to Chang. For instance, no-tariff benefits under the GSP will be changed to tariffs of zero to 75 percent depending on a product's importance to the union.

The EU will also introduce safeguards measures against a flood of unwarranted imports.

Moreover, the new system calls for different graduation guidelines. Countries will not be graduated entirely but on a sector-by-sector basis, according to a product's market competitiveness, Chang said.

South Korea is preparing to join the organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) by 1996 but has asked to be retained on the GSP list until it judges that it has joined the ranks of advanced countries.

Seoul Said Ready To Disclose Russian Documents

*SK1907015594 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
19 Jul 94 p 2*

[From the "Press Pocket" column: "Korean War Papers"]

[Text] The government plans to make public, possibly as early as this week, the Russian documents on the Korean war (1950-53) that were given to President Kim Yong-sam during his recent visit to Moscow.

The documents, dealing with the Russian Foreign Ministry's overseas policies, feature the major data supporting North Korea's invasion of the South that triggered the fratricidal war. The information consists of 100 basic documents covering 279 pages and 116 appendixes taking up 269 pages.

A senior government official said Sunday that translation of the documents has been completed. He disclosed

that the translated versions will be made available to the media and academic circles in a few days.

He explained that the documents are being made public to help the media and academia obtain a historical understanding of the Korean war from the perspective of civilians.

"In opening a diplomatic document, we have to discuss it with the corresponding nation. We have reached a complete settlement on the opening of these Korean war-related documents with Russia," he said.

The Russian government handed over the documents to visiting South Korean President Kim on June 2 as part of efforts to clear up the past.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

SRV's ASEAN Membership Discussed

BK2007145094 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0810 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] Only [word indistinct] details stand in the way of Vietnam's membership to ASEAN. It is a matter of time before the Indochinese country is admitted to be part of an important regional grouping. Its official entry will cap years of hard work put in by member countries to bring Vietnam into the social, economic, and political mainstream of Southeast Asia. This will be especially meaningful because ASEAN itself was set up in 1967 to combat communism. Vietnam was long an opponent of the association, particularly after its 1978 invasion and occupation in Cambodia. This heightened fears of communist aggression in the region.

But ASEAN was pragmatic. It did not isolate Vietnam despite the latter's misgivings about the grouping. Indeed, it took on a ~~pro~~ active approach by taking a leading role in negotiating the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia in 1989.

Since then, Vietnam itself has voiced its readiness to join ASEAN, realizing fully well that it cannot stay isolated from the international community. By being a full member of ASEAN, it can participate in the region's economic endeavors. This will bring much needed prosperity to once war-ravaged country. ASEAN countries too have demonstrated their confidence in Vietnam by investing and extending technical and financial aid to the country.

Therefore, the ongoing 27th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, AMM, in Bangkok, really needs to work out the procedures to pave the way for Vietnam to join up. With Vietnam on the brink of a full ASEAN membership, the stage is set for further efforts to raise the membership to 10. This of course includes bringing Cambodia, Laos, and Burma into the fold. Obviously, the aim is for an ASEAN Ten.

It won't be easy as these countries still harbor political differences, but the odds are not that [words indistinct]. The countries have to realize that living in isolation when others are developing rapidly will only leave them far way behind. The ASEAN strategy has worked for Vietnam there is no reason why it will not work again.

As such, it is baseless for certain quarters to criticize ASEAN for allowing Myanmar [Burma] to the AMM at Bangkok. Although invited by Thailand at only the opening and closing ceremonies, it will no doubt impress upon the country's political leaders on the need for change.

ASEAN stand is based on the belief that constructive engagement brings better benefits rather than isolation. But this should not be perceived by Myanmar as an endorsement by ASEAN of the military junta in Myanmar or its human rights record. It is a signal, however, to Myanmar, that it is part of the ASEAN family. If it really wants to be admitted to the ASEAN family, then political changes based on a free democracy in that country are in order. To change anything in Myanmar, ASEAN strongly believes there needs to be continued dialogue. ASEAN successes, especially in recent years, have clearly put the grouping in good status to move further ahead. It won't be long before ASEAN Ten becomes a reality.

UN Peacekeepers Leave for Bosnia-Herzegovina

BK2107104994 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak says Malaysia holds true to the universal principle of seeking world peace and stability irrespective of race or religion.

He said this when sending off the first group of the Malaysian battalion, Malbatt 2, to serve under the United Nations Protection Force, UNPROFOR, in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The 297-member group, including 34 officers left on a special UN-chartered aircraft from the Royal Malaysian Air Force base in Subang last night. Four more groups will be sent to that country in stages until the end of this month.

Datuk Sri Najib said Malaysia's policy was based on noble and moral principles to protect the victims of exploitation and (?atrocities) in the former Yugoslav state.

He said Malaysia is not only vocal in voicing its stand on what is happening in that country but has proved to the world, particularly to counties which boast of championing human rights, by sending its peacekeepers. He added, Malaysia wished to see peace and stability in returning to that sovereign country and it was for this reason that Malaysia was sending Malbatt to serve under the United Nations' flag.

Datuk Sri Najib advised the group to maintain the performance and efforts shown by Malbatt 1, which had earned international recognition.

Any Settlement To Bring Bosnian Peace Supported

BK2207104494 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Malaysia will support any peace settlement acceptable to all warring parties in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said the government was watching closely the current efforts by Western powers to end the fighting in the Balkan country.

He told the Senate that the Serbs had so far not agreed to the new peace plan which involved dividing the country into a Bosnian-Croat federation and a Serb entity. The plan promoted by the United States, Russia, Britain, France, and Germany had set a deadline for the acceptance by last Wednesday.

The Bosnian parliament approved the plan on Monday despite misgivings while the Serbs were reported to be making demands seen as a delaying tactic.

Datuk Dr. Abdullah also said Malaysia contributed views and played an active role through the Organization of Islamic Conference and the Nonaligned Movement in trying to bring peace to Bosnia.

Spanish Minister Calls on Mahathir

BK2207111594 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Spain is offering military training, especially in ship commanding, for the Malaysian military staff to enhance military cooperation between both countries.

Spanish Defense Minister Julian Garcia Vargas said that Spain would like to share its experiences with Malaysia in military ship handling and would like to offer such training for the Malaysian military personnel. At present Spain is conducting a similar training for the Thai military personnel.

He told reporters this in Kuala Lumpur after calling on Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed. Vargas said during the 40-minute meeting, he discussed the development in Bosnia-Herzegovina, North Africa, and matters relating to economic and military relations between Malaysia and Spain.

Cambodia

Committee Condemns 2d 'U.S. War of Aggression'

BK2107142194 (Clandestine) Radio of the Provisional Government of National Union and National Salvation of Cambodia in Cambodian 1200 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Communique of the Provisional National Committee Against the Second U.S. War of Aggression in Cambodia; date and place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] According to various reports, the U.S. Government recently sent 14 American soldiers to Cambodia. The United States also declared that another group of 45 soldiers will be sent to Cambodia in the next few days. This marks the beginning of the U.S. war in Cambodia. It is the second U.S. war of aggression in Cambodia.

The United States sends troops to wage war in Cambodia while the communist Vietnamese puppets are implementing their absolute fascism and despotism by using their Army and police forces to more cruelly and barbarously suppress, arrest, detain, and kill the Cambodian

people. They particularly target the students; journalists; neutral personages, who refuse to cooperate with them; and any persons, including those in the two-headed groups, who oppose them.

This activity of the U.S. Administration is, on the one hand, an encouragement for the communist Vietnamese, their puppets, and the two-headed elements to commit fascist and dictatorial acts even more brutally. On the second hand, this act of the U.S. Administration constitutes not only a violation of human rights and democratic rights and freedom, but also a conspiracy with the communist Vietnamese to do away with and exterminate the Cambodian race. All of mankind can never forgive this heinous crime.

The Provisional National Government Against the Second U.S. War of Aggression in Cambodia vehemently condemns this U.S. Administration's criminal act against the Cambodian nation and race. The committee demands that the U.S. Administration immediately end this hostile activity against the Cambodian nation and race.

U.S. Road Construction Equipment Arrives

BK2207080694 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] U.S. construction equipment for the Engineering Corps of the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF] arrived in Phnom Penh port on 18 July.

This is the first time that the United States has given aid in the form of equipment for road and bridge construction to the Kingdom of Cambodia and also sent demining specialists to train the KRAF Engineering Corps.

Inspecting the equipment at the port were His Excellency General (Chum Chheang), chief of the Foreign Military Relations Department, and many other leading officers of the Engineering Corps.

(Mike Curr), U.S. Embassy representative, and many representatives of the U.S. Army specialist team were also present.

The construction equipment includes four bulldozers, four caterpillar tractors, an excavator, two levelers, a (?road grater), a water cistern truck with a capacity of 30,000-liters, six power generators with a capacity of from three to 10 kilowatts, and three welding machines.

Philippines

Abu Sayyaf Use of AFP Arms Confirmed

BK2107141294 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 19 Jul 94 p 3

[By Romie A. Evangelista and Fel V. Maragay]

[Text] The high-powered firearms and ammunition being used by the Abu Sayyaf Muslim fundamentalist

group came from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Logistics Command [Logcom] and other military and police units in the Autonomous Region for Muslim Mindanao, police probers found out yesterday.

A reliable source at Camp Crame said police investigators traced the origin of the firearms seized from Hadji Muin Aminuddin, alleged supply officer of Abu Sayyaf.

Aminuddin was arrested last 3 June in an Abu Sayyaf safe house in Zamboanga City under "Oplan Tugis [Operation Pursuit]," aimed at neutralizing Muslim extremists believed responsible in the series of kidnaping for ransom, bombing missions, and other terroristic activities in the region.

Reports about the source of Abu Sayyaf's logistics coming from the military was further confirmed by a certain Black Ninja, a self-confessed Abu Sayyaf spokesman, that they acquire their logistics from a "Colonel" and a "Major" from the AFP's Southern Command [Southcom].

Police probers privy to the issue said that although there were reports that Abu Sayyaf gets foreign funding, the rebel group purchases their firearms and ammunition from the AFP.

The AFP is currently conducting an in-house investigation on the sourcing of the firearms seized from Aminuddin but the reports emanating from the AFP B J-9 and the Logcom do not tally.

The J-9 reported that several of the seized firearms from Aminuddin emanated from the military while Logcom indicated in a report that none of said firearms came from them.

Seized from Aminuddin's residence at Gumamela Ext. [Extension], Villa Marla, Zamboanga City include fourteen M16 Armalite rifles; one Garand rifle; M-79 grenade launcher; 90 RR recoilless rifle, one barrel of 50 cal. [caliber] machine gun; one trigger housing for M60 light machine gun; 3 handguards for M16 rifle butt; 10 pieces M1-16 rifle butt; 2 pieces hand grenades; two Icom handset radios with battery pack; one battery charger for Icom; 11 short mags for M16; 6 long mags for M16 and hundreds of rounds of assorted ammunition.

According to an Abu Sayyaf member who was interviewed by the TV crew on Channel 2, they bought one 81 MM mortar and a cal. 30 machine gun from a military colonel from Southcom for the amount of P100,000 [Philippine pesos].

Earlier, Supt. Rodolfo Almonte, PNP-CISC [Philippine National Police-Criminal Investigation Service Command] Region 9 chief, said that based on the statement of Aminuddin, the 17 firearms and assorted ammunition seized from him came from the AFP Logcom.

Almonte said that Aminuddin admitted that the 17 high-powered firearms, assorted ammunition, and gun parts, were supplied by the AFP Logcom.

Director Agerico Kagaoan, PNP Operations chief, said most of the seized firearms have defaced serial numbers, indicating that the guns were of local origin.

The CISC Region 9 report said that Aminuddin said the Abu Sayyaf has a contact with the AFP Logcom in Camp Aguinaldo. The identities of the Abu Sayyaf contact were withheld pending their arrest.

Aminuddin told probers that the firearms from Logcom are transported from Manila to Zamboanga City on board Philippine Airlines [PAL] with the assistance of some personnel from PAL and the PNP Aviation and Security Command (Pascom).

The names of the PAL and Pascom men were also withheld.

The Abu Sayyaf supply officer also disclosed that he previously bought a car which was given as a gift to a Pascom officer detailed at the Manila Domestic Airport. The Pascom officer's identity was also withheld.

Aminuddin said that he bought the 1989 Nissan Sentra, with plate No. DGD 423, from the Foxtrot Alpha Lomibao Cars in Greenland Village, Pasig and the vehicle is now being used by the Pascom officer.

The CISC is now conducting a thorough investigation of Aminuddin's revelation in coordination with military intelligence units.

Meanwhile, National Security Adviser Jose Almonte yesterday dismissed the view that the Abu Sayyaf extremists are part of a global network of terrorists espousing Muslim fundamentalism.

Almonte said that although intelligence reports indicate that Abu Sayyaf group is getting assistance from foreign groups, came into being due to social, political, and economic conditions in Mindanao. [sentence as published]

"As of now, I see it as indigenous. It will require hard evidence for us to make a conclusion that they're part of a global criminal conspiracy, if there is such a thing," the national security chief told Malacanang [presidential office] reporters during a press briefing.

The Abu Sayyaf, founded a few years ago by Abubakar Janjalani, was regarded as one of the most serious security threats in the country during the last meeting of the National Security Council last April.

Military intelligence showed that the Abu Sayyaf had about 200 hard-core members before a massive government offensive was launched against the group in Sulu and Basilan since June.

Reports of foreign support being received by the Abu Sayyaf in terms of funds and weapons prompted Lt. Gen. Orlando Soriano, chief of the Southern Command, to ask the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation to

mount a crackdown of foreigners in Mindanao suspected of having links with the terrorist group.

But the Abu Sayyaf denied getting assistance from foreign sources. The group claimed that its weapons are being supplied by their sympathizers in the military.

Gen. Arturo Enrile, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said initial investigation has disproved allegations that the Abu Sayyaf's weapons came from the military arsenal.

Almonte said there is nothing wrong with Muslim fundamentalism because even some Christian groups subscribe to their own brand of religious fundamentalism.

"Fundamentalism is not a monopoly of Islam. It's in all religions," he said.

Almonte said what the government is against is the use of violence by Muslim fundamentalists in order to attain their objectives.

"So it's the violent dimension of their claim that we're really concerned about," Almonte said.

But he said the more the Abu Sayyaf group "resorts to violence like kidnaping, murder, and other crimes, the more they alienate themselves from the community, the more they will be put out of existence."

Government authorities have avoided referring to the Abu Sayyaf as rebels. Instead they refer to the group as "terrorists" or plain bandits.

Inquiries conducted by Mindanao-based journalists reveal that the Abu Sayyaf is just one of the many Muslim fundamentalist groups that have sprung in Mindanao. They were inspired by the success of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

Almonte said many Abu Sayyaf members were relatives of members of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF].

The Abu Sayyaf is said to be aiming to wrest control of the Muslim separatist movement from the MNLF headed by Chairman Nur Misuari.

The extremist group is against the peace negotiations being conducted by Misuari with the government.

Missionaries Said Recruiting Abu Sayyaf Members

BK2207110394 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 20 Jul 94 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Foreign Muslim missionaries in Mindanao have been recruiting Abu Sayyaf members for enlistment in the International Islamic Brigade (ISB) to help Bosnian Muslims and other oppressed Islamic peoples around the world, classified military reports said. [passage omitted]

The military intelligence reports noted that three original members of the Abu Sayyaf were trained abroad and eventually enlisted in the ISB to fight the Soviet-backed Kabul regime in Afghanistan in the mid-1980s.

They were Abdurajik Abubakar Janjalani, who trained in Libya and eventually became the Abu Sayyaf chief-tain; Amilhussin Jumaani, who trained in Iran; and, Wahad Akbar, who trained in Syria.

The reports came even as the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] accused the military of undertaking a "witch hunt" of Muslim missionaries from member-states of the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC].

In a statement, MNLF spokesman Zain Jali said the missionaries were only pursuing their Islamic duty and helping "strengthen the Islamic fiber of the Bangsamoro people."

Jali also threatened to report to the OIC the "total militarization of Mindanao" and other atrocities allegedly committed by the military against Muslims in the region.

Immigration and police authorities recently arrested six foreigners, including an Iranian, a Pakistani, and two Jordanians, in Zamboanga City on suspicion that they were Abu Sayyaf supporters. The foreigners were later released after their travel papers were found to be in order.

According to the military reports, the ISB is active not only in Islamic countries but also in states where there are sizable Muslim minorities.

It is also conducting propaganda work among Muslim workers and students in Europe, Africa, and Asia.

The reports said the ISB was also helping Bosnia, where an ethnic conflict has resulted in the death of hundreds of thousands of Muslims. [passage omitted]

Southcom's [Southern Command's] Soriano said his command's main objective was to get rid of all Abu Sayyaf elements in Sulu and Basilan.

He also expressed doubts on the chances of success of the negotiations for Nacorda's [Catholic priest being held hostage] release.

"Maybe there's no more hope for that. P3 million [Philippine pesos] is P3 million. Nobody can raise that money. But if there are some people who wish to raise funds, that's OK. That's their own effort. But we have our plans," Soriano said.

"I am not saying it's a military option, but we have our plans. Let us not talk about it, just wait for results. I think we can do better by giving results."

Director General Recaredo Sarmiento, Philippine National Police [PNP] chief, ordered a "physical accounting" of all firearms and ammunition nationwide,

noting allegations that troops were involved in arms sales to the Abu Sayyaf were very serious and needed immediate investigation.

The Armed Forces also activated intelligence and counter-intelligence units to start probing the possibility that a syndicate within their ranks could be responsible for the loss of government firearms and ammunition.

"I would be happy to find a colonel, major, or a general (involved in this) ... We'll hang this guy from a flagpole in front of the GHQ [General Headquarters]," said Lt. Gen. Alfredo Filler, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] vice chief of staff and spokesman.

Filler also admitted that 13 of the M-16s earlier recovered from the alleged Abu Sayyaf supply officer, Hadji Muin Aminuddin, came from the government.

The AFP originally acquired the rifles from 14 December 1977 to 13 July 1981, he said.

Investigators were able to trace the weapons after the Criminal Investigation Service Command restored the defaced serial numbers of the firearms through a chemical process handled by the PNP's Crime Laboratory.

However, they have not been able to establish how the firearms got into the hands of the Abu Sayyaf, Filler said.

The AFP spokesman conjectured that the weapons could be part of AFP losses through past battles with rebels.

Investigation would take a long time because the AFP does not have a computerized list of 153,000 M-16 rifles in its inventory.

"We still cannot say how we lost it ... That is the reason why the secretary of National Defense ordered us to expedite this to know if any of our people are involved," he added.

Government To Stop Sending Workers to Algeria

BK2207105994 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] The Philippines' Department of Foreign Affairs, or DFA, said on Thursday that they will recommend that Filipino overseas contract workers be barred from going to Algeria due to the increasing threat of Islamic fundamentalist violence in that country.

The recommendation to the Philippine Labor Department, which is in charge of monitoring the exodus of Filipinos to work overseas, noted that foreigners, particularly technical workers, were being targeted by the fundamentalists to deprive the Algerian Government of their expertise. This has hurt Algeria's crucial oil and gas industry.

The DFA noted that 59 Filipinos have been sent to Algeria in 1993 and an additional 17 were sent in the first four months of this year.

Vice President Stresses 'All-Out War' on Drugs

BK2207105594 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Philippine Vice President Joseph Estrada said Thursday the government's anticrime campaign will focus on cracking drug smuggling rings, many of which have connections to Hong Kong and elsewhere in Southeast Asia.

Estrada, chairman of the presidential Anticrime Commission, spoke one day after agents killed an alleged Hong Kong drug courier after a high-speed chase through suburban Quezon City in Metro Manila.

Police said they recovered 45 million pesos of \$1.6 million worth of methamphetamine hydrochloride in one of the biggest drug seizures in Manila in years.

Estrada told the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines that the government must destroy drug smuggling syndicates or, in his words, they will finish us. Estrada said his commission was gearing for an all-out war against drug traffickers.

He said the campaign includes linking the heads of police agencies in other countries. He said he had a verbal agreement with the Chinese minister of public safety and security on exchanging information about criminal activities of Chinese and Filipinos in Manila and Xiamen.

Thailand

Prasong Meets PRC Counterpart Qian Qichen

BK2107132494 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] During his visit to Thailand to attend the 27th ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting, Qian Qichen, vice premier and foreign minister of the People's Republic of China, called on Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri at the Foreign Ministry at about 1000 today.

Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, who is this year's chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, told reporters about the topics which were brought up for discussion with his Chinese counterpart. He said:

[Begin Prasong recording] As my Chinese counterpart told you earlier, we share similar views on several issues, especially bilateral relations between Thailand and China and those concerning the ASEAN meeting. Most of the issues I brought up for discussion pertained to cooperation between our countries. One topic was about the excessively high tax barrier for jewelry. China charges 200 percent tax on this type of product. I requested the Chinese side to consider reducing the rate. We explained to him the procedures of several ASEAN meetings, in particular the ARF [ASEAN Regional

Forum]. The Chinese foreign minister raised for discussion the Malaysia-proposed EAEC [East Asian Economic Caucus]. He questioned me about the scheme. I told him that the Malaysian foreign minister will later provide a clear explanation about its organization and functions. ASEAN will invited foreign (word indistinct) to have a meal together and talk about the EAEC on 25 July. China also supports the EAEC scheme because it believes that East Asian countries can cooperate with each other to develop their economies. [end recording]

Speaking about relations between ASEAN and China, the foreign minister said that the ASEAN Standing Committee has agreed that a mechanism should be established to deal with this matter. This issue will be submitted to the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting for further consideration.

Editorial Views Challenges Facing ASEAN

*BK2207104794 Bangkok THE NATION in English
22 Jul 94 p A8*

[Editorial: "Asean Now Faces New Challenges in S.E. Asia"]

[Text] Today, for the first time in history, foreign ministers from 10 Southeast Asian countries will be gathering under the same roof.

The two-day Asean Ministerial Meeting will bring Asean foreign ministers from Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei and the Philippines together with foreign ministers from Cambodia, Laos, Burma and Vietnam.

It goes without saying that today's Asean gathering will pave the way for a greater Southeast Asia, thus fulfilling the dreams of the regional grouping's founders.

Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said on Wednesday that the proposed new forum for dialogue among the 10 Southeast Asian nations should serve as a springboard for the full integration of the remaining four non-Asean countries into the grouping.

Sea-10

The forum, known as Sea-10, is expected to eventually allow Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia to become full members of Asean, Prasong said. However, the status of Burma still remains vague, with the Thai foreign minister skirting the issue by not mentioning the military junta-occupied country among the remaining four non-Asean countries in the Sea-10.

It would be disastrous at this juncture to even consider allowing Burma to belong to the Sea-10, given its horrible record of human rights abuses and the military junta's continued detention of Nobel Peace Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

Wednesday marked the beginning of Suu Kyi's sixth year of unlawful house arrest by the State Law and Order

Restoration Council (Slorc), and world leaders have condemned the Burmese junta for her continued detention.

The United States, an important dialogue partner with Asean, has made its stand very clear on this issue.

In a satellite interview with Bangkok reporters, Winston Lord, US assistant secretary of state for Southeast Asian and Pacific Affairs said on Wednesday the United States had no problems with proposals for Asean membership for Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos because of their geographical and economic and security roles in the region.

"We are of course somewhat less enthusiastic about Burma's involvement because of its human rights and narcotics records," he said, referring to the country's status as the world's top producer of opium.

The message to Asean is clear: The Slorc has caused Burma to be accorded a pariah-like status internationally and unless they change their ways and respect democracy and human rights, the country will be shunned.

Vietnam's intention to join the regional grouping is also one of the important topics to be discussed by the Asean foreign ministers. Though none of the Asean countries are against Hanoi's application, an obstacle however still remains.

Prasong said the "key criteria" for Vietnam's acceptance would be its "willingness to participate in all Asean activities", including financial ventures. One such venture, said the Thai foreign minister, is the Asean Fund, a communal financing pool for which each Asean member is to provide US\$1 million.

Considering Vietnam's current economic status and its sincere efforts to initiate reforms which have won plaudits from the International Monetary Fund, this requirement should be waived for the time being until the country is in a better financial position.

Preventive diplomacy

On Monday, Asean, together with 11 other countries including China, Japan, Russia and the United States, will be taking the first steps to lay the groundwork for preventive diplomacy and security in the Asia-Pacific region. The fledgling Asean Regional Forum (ARF) is the response to the challenges posed by the collapse of communism and the end of the Cold War. Getting former Cold War adversaries to sit together at the same table is a major accomplishment in itself.

The ARF preferably should be a medium whereby there can be a serious exchange of views, as opposed to a formal forum. At this stage, it is not productive in any way to focus on formal documents, declarations of principle or treaties. In fact, more can often be achieved through simple open discussions than attempting to get countries to sign pieces of paper.

Twenty-seven years after its formation, Asean now faces tremendous challenges as it nears the 21st century. In so far as the regional grouping wants to share a common policy with regard to foreign relations and human rights, it has to take into account the different political systems in its member states. Diversity should be accepted, and one country's style of government should not be forced down the throat of another in the name of Asean solidarity.

Prime Minister Comments on Burma

BK2207042194 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Speaking to reporters about the invitation extended to the Burmese foreign minister to visit Thailand during the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai noted that the Burmese foreign minister is here as a guest. He said:

[Begin recording] [Chuan] Our policy is a constructive one. With this policy we are trying to open the door for Burma to come out and cooperate with countries in the region; at least to see more of the outside. This is our policy. Our policy is not to pressure them; it is a constructive one. At least they will know what is going on. He has been invited here as our guest; not an adviser, observer, or anything else.

This is the first step in the implementation of our policy toward Burma. Thailand must also look out for itself while the government's policy [words indistinct]. I have told the foreign ministers of other countries, including China, that we know some countries that are concerned about human rights—like the Western nations—are not pleased with the invitation extended to the Burmese foreign minister to come here. As a good neighbor, however, we want Burma to take part. It is not that we fully agree with the path Burma has chosen, but we have no right to interfere in their affairs. The best way is to give them the opportunity to see more things and learn—this is our policy. I can say this because the Chinese foreign minister has praised the invitation we extended to Burma to take part at a certain level in this event.

[Unidentified reporter] The Cambodian foreign minister is also coming here. Will you talk with him about relations between our two countries?

[Chuan] He will meet with our foreign minister and discuss general issues. [end recording]

The prime minister said the meeting will be asked to find ways to boost cooperation among the ASEAN member countries.

Touching on the conference on human rights and development organized by a private organization, the prime minister said this gathering would probably have no effect on the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting because all of the concerned parties reached an understanding after the organization's representatives met with the

foreign minister. Regarding reports about the cutting of telephone lines during the conference, the prime minister said that should not have happened; in principle, nobody should do that.

Foreign Minister Receives Burmese Counterpart

BK2107140894 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 9 in Thai 1200 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Today, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri received his Burmese counterpart Ohn Gyaw, who is in Bangkok to attend the ASEAN meeting. The Burmese foreign minister declined to answer any questions from journalists regarding the call by the international community to release Aung San Suu Kyi and redress the human rights problem in Burma.

Meanwhile, the Thai foreign minister said the U.S. suggestion that the ASEAN forum be used to pressure Burma to release Suu Kyi is not possible and will not affect the forum because the issue is merely a view of the United States.

[Begin recording] [unidentified correspondent in progress] ...regarding Burma?

[Prasong] No. The Burmese foreign minister has already arrived in Bangkok. I hosted lunch for him today. We had a nice conversation. He will participate in the opening and closing ceremonies.

[Correspondent] Does this mean that it is not possible for the United States to apply pressure to use (?the forum in Thailand) to gain the release of Aung San Suu Kyi?

[Prasong] That is the business of the United States. We regard it as an internal affair of Burma. [end recording]

The foreign minister also said he has no information or facts about the reported sale of information to Burma by senior Thai officials. As a former secretary general of the National Security Council, he said he would know what is true or not.

Report Notes Burmese Intelligence Operations

BK2107123994 Bangkok NAO NA in Thai 21 Jul 94 pp 4, 10

[Text] NAO NA earlier reported that the Burmese Government had sought permission to post five officials to its embassy in Bangkok. They are: Tun Khin, Myint Oo, Thaung Kyi, Tun Thein, and (Saw Kyaw Lan San). All are claimed to be Foreign Ministry officials. However, they are in fact officials attached to the Military Intelligence Department, or the DDSI [Directorate of Defense Services Intelligence], under Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt. The Thai Foreign Ministry and intelligence agencies reached the common opinion that approving the request would enable the Burmese Government's intelligence network to expand, and that there has been a shortage of Thai officials monitoring their

activities. However, the Thai National Security Council [NSC] feels that the Burmese request should be approved.

At 1000 on 20 July senior NSC officials held a meeting to discuss the issue of Burmese intelligence officials working under cover of embassy officials. Khachatphai Burutphat, the NSC deputy secretary general, declined to elaborate on this issue.

NAEO NA received information from an official of a nongovernmental organization [NGO] who had contact with a former Burmese military officer in the DDSI. This officer recently sneaked across the Thai-Burmese border and fled to a third country. The defector was unhappy with the Burmese administrative system, in which the SLORC tightly controlled its people and deprived able officials of advancement. He said one had no advancement opportunity if one did not belong to the units under the SLORC leaders.

The defector worked in the DDSI from 1972. In the last three years before defection his responsibility involved intelligence on Thailand. This enabled him to have access to information on Thailand sent by DDSI agents to Rangoon.

The defector told the NGO official that the Burmese intelligence center is located in the office of the Burmese military attache, formerly Colonel Ba Hein. The current head of the Burmese spy network is Colonel Thein Swe, a military attache who was picked by Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt himself. Col. Thein Swe replaced Col. Ba Hein in 1992.

The defector said Col. Thein Swe has been very successful. He has been able to expand the intelligence network in Thailand to the extent that it requires more manpower. Col. Thein Swe received a commendation from Rangoon and received a special promotion to his current colonel rank.

Col. Thein Swe is ambitious. Being an air force officer, he seeks to be accepted in the DDSI which is controlled by the army. Col. Thein Swe once worked for Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt. This position enabled him to advance rapidly. He speaks excellent English and worked as a liaison officer to foreign embassies in Rangoon. These qualifications enabled him to be picked for the military attache post in Thailand, a post usually held by an army officer. For this reason, Col. Thein Swe is disliked by many officers in the DDSI who are also close to Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt.

According to the source, the Burmese military intelligence runs several agents—Burmese, Thais, and ethnic minorities. After Col. Thein Swe came to Thailand, Burmese intelligence acquired a Thai spy, who has provided the Burmese with very good information. The Burmese regard this spy, code-named Victor, as very valuable.

The source said reports from Col. Thein Swe revealed that Victor has access to Thai official civilian, and military secrets. Victor's identity is unknown, but he is believed to be a senior official, politician, or adviser to a senior government official.

The source said Col. Thein Swe promised Victor huge financial rewards from Burma's revenue from oil and fisheries.

Meanwhile, the Mon information office held a news conference at Wiang Tai Hotel. Kitti Worakunkitti, member of the Mon Coordination Committee in Thailand, said his group supports negotiations between the Mons residing along the Thai-Burmese border and the Burmese Government. His group feels that the negotiation should be held in a neutral territory such as Thailand, not in Burma. The participants should have a similar status and there should be a neutral arbitrator. In the past the arbitrator exploited the Mons as his tool.

Kitti said: "The arbitrator was a Thai, possibly working for the NSC and was close to Gen. Charan Kunlawant, the NSC secretary general. He was able to use government equipment such as a helicopter to pick up Mon leaders for negotiations. The Mon leaders were persuaded to come to an agreement with the Burmese Government in order to benefit the arbitrator's work for a company involved in laying a gas pipe into Burma. The whole operation was supported by the Burmese Government. I have a picture of this man accompanying the Burmese military attache to a meeting with the Mon leaders in a jungle. He was trying to force the Mon leaders to negotiate."

Kitti said the NSC normally worked for a peaceful region. But there was selfish motive for applying pressure on that occasion.

Kitti said his Mon sources told him that the dictatorial Burmese Government has amassed some 300,000 soldiers and bought 25 billion baht worth of Chinese weapons. He said all of this would be detrimental to the Burmese as well as to the Thai people.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri has said that the report about Burmese Government's spying activities is nonsense and groundless. He even said that if it were true, he could not discuss it publicly because it would be a government secret and could affect relations with Burma.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Suwit Simasakun said that the aforementioned report puzzles him.

Large Ethnic Group Flees Across Burmese Border

BK2207091094 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] The Public Relations Office of Kanchanaburi Province announced last night that according to a report from the Border Patrol Police at Base 134 in Sangkhlaburi District, Kanchanaburi Province, a group of 9,000

ethnic Mons in Burma yesterday evening fled a Burmese military attack into Thai territory in Ban Ton Yang village No. 5, Nong Lu Subdistrict, Sangkhlaburi District.

Thai officials are currently caring for the Mons who escaped the assault by Burmese soldiers. They are encamped in an area two kilometers from the border, which is four kilometers from their villages in Burma.

Reportage on Human Rights Issue, Conference

Chuan Confirms Noninterference

BK2207104294 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai says Thailand stands by ASEAN agreement reached in Singapore last year on noninterference in Indonesia's Timor issue.

The prime minister dismissed the report that the government has blocked the seminar by the Human Rights Fund in Thailand as groundless. He says any international organization wishing to hold a seminar in Thailand has to inform the authorities in advance. Until now there has not been any request made by the Human Rights Fund.

The prime minister says that Thailand is a democratic country and political activities are allowed within the national law. Thai nationals and their associates are asked to uphold the country's interests above their own.

The prime minister says friendship between Indonesia and Thailand has been special and needs to be considered as a priority matter. He questions the motive of the Human Rights Fund to hold the seminar in parallel with the ASEAN ministerial meeting in Thailand.

Timor Activist Vows To Speak

BK2207111194 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT 22 Jul 94

[By Pascal Mallet]

[Text] Bangkok, July 22 (AFP)—The vice president of East Timor's independence movement, Jose Ramos Horta, vowed Friday to address an unofficial conference here on human rights, despite the threat of expulsion from Thailand.

The forum is being staged here alongside an ASEAN ministerial meeting.

"I do not intend to accept the Thai expulsion order if it is issued against me," Horta told AFP.

"In any case, I have to catch a plane tonight. If I am prevented by the Thai police from giving my speech at the conference before I leave, someone else will read the speech on my behalf," he added.

Horta, vice president-in-exile of the National Council of the Maubere Resistance, or East Timorese nationalist

movement, explained that three independence activists had already been expelled from Thailand.

Horta said an Australian colleague, Margherita Tracacelli, was interrogated by Thai immigration officials for several hours on Thursday before being expelled Friday.

Thailand, which is hosting the ASEAN meeting, has come under pressure from fellow member states to ban the parallel human rights conference.

Horta said the other two expulsions were Frank Coorey, an Australian lawyer and filmmaker, and Lita Ocampo, a Philippine photographer.

Horta accused Jakarta of threatening Thailand with economic reprisals to prevent rights issues, including Indonesia's occupation of East Timor, from being discussed in Bangkok. He said Indonesia used similar tactics against the Philippines when Manila hosted a seminar on East Timor two months ago.

Jakarta has warned Bangkok that a development project called "the triangle of economic growth," gathering Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, will suffer if East Timor is publicly debated here, Horta said, quoting what he said were Thai sources.

The Thai press reported Friday that Indonesia's foreign minister, Ali Alatas, threatened to pull out of the 27th ASEAN ministerial meeting, which opened here on Friday.

ASEAN comprises Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Horta, who holds a Portuguese passport, said he arrived in Thailand on July 14 despite having been warned that his name was on Bangkok's blacklist of 11 East Timorese. Bangkok's ban has been strongly criticized in the local press.

The activist says he is willing to test that ban by speaking at the human rights conference that opened here on Wednesday. The meeting, organized by Thai non-governmental groups, has been closely watched by the police.

Horta said that the surveillance has not changed his plans to speak out.

"Our crime, and we freely admit it, is the struggle for the independence of our country," he said.

East Timor, formerly a Portuguese colony, was annexed by Indonesia in 1976. But the occupation, and allegedly widespread human rights abuses by the Indonesian government and army, have been condemned by the West.

The government has met armed opposition from the Revolutionary Front for the Independence of East Timor (FRETILIN). The fighting, as well as the famine and epidemics that followed, has resulted in between 70,000 and 200,000 deaths in a population of 600,000.

Horta said Friday that he has asked UN Secretary-general Butrus Butrus-Ghali to arrange a meeting for him with Indonesian Foreign Minister Alatas in Bangkok on the sidelines of the ASEAN conference.

"I haven't received a reply. But I hope, and I have good reasons to hope, that I will be able to meet Mr. Alatas in September in New York, during the next session of the UN General Assembly," Horta said.

The Indonesian delegation could not immediately be reached for comment Friday.

East Timor Discussed

BK2207105294 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Jul 94 p 8

[Text] Despite watchful police eyes and the absence of Timorese representatives, the regional human rights seminar yesterday opened discussions on the Timor issue.

Conference spokesperson, Cecilia Jimenez of the Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocate, said she was not sure whether Timorese representatives would be able to attend the meeting today.

But she said there were other participants well-versed on the Timor problem who could present a case for discussion.

Two Burmese and one Indonesian showed up yesterday to present reports of human rights violations in their countries.

Eddy Meechai of Burma criticised ASEAN's constructive engagement policy, saying it had no chance to convince the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] to change heart.

He also said he doubted the policy reflected the view of the Thai people.

The meeting yesterday discussed obstacles to social development and the role of NGOs at different levels.

Participants said development should mean equitable distribution of wealth, nondiscrimination of all forms, participation of the masses in decision-making, protection of freedom of speech, freedom of peaceful assembly, and protection of the environment, said Ms Jimenez.

Meanwhile, six Burmese students yesterday staged a hunger strike at their detention centre in Bangkhen to protest against the presence of SLORC representatives at the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting.

A police representative said the six students refused to accept food at their detention centre inside the Bangkhen police private school.

They said they would end their strike after the end of the conference and the departure of the SLORC delegation, the police source said.

He said the Police Department had ordered close monitoring of the condition of the hunger strikers and to try to convince them to end the strike.

Any strikers who became sick would immediately be taken to the Police General Hospital, he said.

He said no extra restrictions were imposed on 100 Burmese housed at the Maniloi temporary shelter in Pak Chong District of Rat Buri.

They were allowed to leave the shelter to do business outside, but were asked not to take part in any political activities during the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting, he said.

Special Branch police reinforcements had been assigned to the Burmese Embassy and to hotels where foreign delegates were staying during the conference.

Australian Activists Deported

BK2207111494 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Two Australian human rights activists have been deported from Thailand after claims that they broke immigration rule. However, media adviser for the East Timor Resistance Movement, Margherita Tracanelli, and barrister Frank Coorey say their expulsion was political. They claimed Thailand has bowed to pressure from Indonesia to curb human rights criticism as the ASEAN foreign ministers' summit gets under way in Bangkok. Evan Williams reports:

[Begin Williams recording] Officially the two Australian have been expelled because they breached immigration laws by visiting the Burmese opposition base inside Burma. During several hours of questioning, immigration officials told the two they were known to be working with the East Timor Resistance and with its representative Jose Ramos Horta who is still in Bangkok. They said all three are on a black listed people Indonesia wants ban from making any public statement about East Timor. As they fly home, ASEAN foreign ministers will be opening their annual summit with no voice of dissent allowed. [end recording]

Vietnam

Foreign Minister Departs for ASEAN Meeting

BK2207044894 Hanoi VNA in English 1515 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 21—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam left Hanoi this morning for Bangkok to attend a ministerial conference of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and a regional forum, said Foreign Ministry's Spokesperson Mrs Ho The Lan at a press briefing here this afternoon.

The spokesperson added that this is the second time Vietnam attends the ASEAN ministerial conference as

an observer. She said that at this conference, Foreign Minister Cam will have talks with other foreign ministers on the questions of common concern with the aim to enhance bilateral relations as well as to pave the way for Vietnam to join ASEAN.

Asked about reports on Japanese prime minister's forthcoming visit to Vietnam, Mrs Ho The Lan said that the Vietnamese television and newspapers had quoted foreign sources. In fact, she added, early 1993, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet already extended his invitation for a Vietnam visit to the then Japanese Prime Minister and Vietnam would welcome Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama if he visits Vietnam and consider the visit as a good opportunity for the strengthening of the relations between the two countries.

Country Granted GATT Observer Status

BK2207101094 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, GATT, on Thursday [21 July] reserved observer status for Vietnam as recognition of Vietnam's progress in approaching an open-door economy.

A spokesman of GATT said Vietnam's application was discussed at a meeting of GATT Administrative Council and was hailed by a majority of representatives of 123 member countries, the U.S. included.

The Vietnamese ambassador in Geneva Nguyen Luong told the council that Vietnam wants to become an official member, and considers the status of observer as a first step in this process.

EU Commissioner for Political Relations Arrives

BK2207050194 Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT
21 Jul 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 21—A delegation of the European Union led by Mr Hans van den Broek, a ranking member of the European Commission responsible for external political relations arrived here this afternoon, starting a four day visit to Vietnam.

This is the EU's highest official to visit Vietnam since the official establishment of relations between the two sides in November 1990. Mr Hans van den Broek is accompanied by a number of EU senior officials.

Speaking at a welcome ceremony today, Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien described this visit as an important event in the relations between Vietnam and the EU.

For his part Mr Hans van den Broek said his visit was manifestation of the European Commission's determination to further develop its relations with Vietnam.

Assembly Official Meets French Delegation

BK2207045994 Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT
21 Jul 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 21—National Assembly Vice Chairman Nguyen Ha Phan received here this afternoon Mr C. Poncelet, president of the Senate Financial Committee, Mr C. Martin and Mr F. Jean, members of the French Parliament who are included in the French economic delegation on a Vietnam visit from July 20-23.

During the meeting, Vice Chairman Phan expressed his thanks to the French Government and people for their support to and cooperation with Vietnam. He spoke highly of the France's role in supporting Vietnam to normalize its relations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The vice chairman expressed his rejoice over the new development in the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries and hope that these relations would further bring the two countries and parliaments closer to each other.

Mr C. Poncelet said that the French economic delegation's current visit was aimed at consolidating the economic and financial cooperation between Vietnam and France. He expressed his hope that the cooperation between the two countries would develop further in the interest of the two countries, thus contributing to the building of Southeast Asia a region of peace, stability and prosperity.

National Assembly Discusses Draft Labor Law

Members Discuss Draft

942E0069A Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG
in Vietnamese 28 May 94 pp 1, 3

[Article by N.T.P.]

[Text] On 27 May 1994, the 2d day of the fifth session of the ninth National Assembly, delegates discussed the draft labor law. The vice president of the National Assembly, Phung Van Tuu, presided at the meeting.

The labor law is an important bill. Many voters and National Assembly delegates have expressed many ideas about this. Bui Ngoc Thanh, a member of the session secretariat, reported to the National Assembly that during the group meetings held on 26 May, delegates concentrated on analyzing and discussing the major issues about which there are still differences of opinion, such as the objectives and regulatory scope of this law, the minimum age of laborers, the issue of female laborers, the role of trade union organizations, and the issue of strikes.

In the assembly hall, the delegates continued to clarify the above issues by listening to 42 speakers at the morning and afternoon sessions.

Concerning the name of this law, Delegate Nguyen Duy Quy from Nghe An, Ha Thi Thu Suong from Quang

Nam-Danang, and a number of other delegates said that this should be called the "Labor Law," because the contents of the draft law do not cover all labor targets. If this is to be turned into a code, the regulatory scope of this law must be expanded. A number of other delegates argued in favor of calling this a "Labor Code." According to Delegate Nguyen Duy Anh from Lam Dong, and Le Van Tam from Thanh Hoa, the labor problem is very important, and the contents mentioned in the draft are fairly complete. Speaking before the National Assembly, Tran Dinh Hoan, the minister of labor, war invalids, and social welfare and the chairman of the draft committee, said that the basis for determining whether this should be a code or law depends on the degree to which labor relationships in the specific articles are manifested and not on the regulatory scope of the code. He said that no labor code in the world can encompass all labor targets and that our draft labor law regulates only relationships between laborers who work for a salary and those who use laborers. But the articles in the draft law fully manifest those relationships. Although he agrees with the regulatory scope and applications mentioned in the draft law, when Delegate Vu Tuat Viet (Ho Chi Minh City) discussed Article 4 in the draft law, he gave attention to a real situation. That is, some administrative positions are still unclear, and at a number of units, there is an overlap between administrative, business, and commercial production factors. This must be studied in depth. In the case of a number of the targets mentioned in Article 4, separate laws must be applied; at the same time, articles of the labor law can be applied as long as they don't conflict with those other laws. Delegates Nguyen Ngoc Hai (Haiphong) and Le Minh Chau (Ho Chi Minh City) said that Article 4, which stipulates that a number of the sections and articles in the labor law apply to state civil servants and National Assembly delegates, should be deleted, because there are separate laws for these labor targets and these targets do not come within the regulatory scope of the labor law. Some delegates proposed keeping Article 4 but said that it should be clearer and more concise.

The minimum age of laborers is still an issue about which people differ. Delegate Nguyen Thi Binh (Quang Nam-Danang) said that the minimum age should be 15, because that is in accord with the realities of our country and will ensure that the Child Protection Law is implemented. Delegate Trinh Tran (Ha Giang) said that there must be stipulations limiting work periods and the jobs suited to this age group. Many people discussed the issue of giving assistance to laborers who have quit work or taken time off. Delegate Pham Hung (Hai Hung) agreed with the amount stated in the draft law for absences from work, that is, for each year of work, a person can receive up to one-half of his monthly salary. But he said that the amount stipulated in the draft for those who quit working, that is, half a month's salary per year, is contrary to state stipulations that have been in use for a long time (an allowance of 1 month's salary per year). Delegate Nguyen Van Minh (Song Be) said that the allowance paid to people who miss work should be 1

month's salary per year. But Delegate Cao Minh Chau (Hanoi) said that many enterprises do not have the financial capabilities to pay that much. Many delegates stressed that stipulating allowance levels must be based on the labor law to protect the interests of the laborers and, at the same time, to encourage and enable the enterprises to expand and contribute to providing jobs for laborers. Agreeing with the above viewpoint, Delegate Nguyen Van Hanh (Ho Chi Minh City) said that the government must issue a document under the law to guide the implementation of the policy that gives priority to laborers in purchasing shares and contribute capital to expand the enterprises stipulated in Article 11, particularly non-state enterprises and units engaged in joint ventures with other countries, in order to protect the rights of the laborers and attract domestic and foreign investment. Delegate Nguyen Van Tu (Dong Nai) proposed allowing laborers to purchase shares by contributing part of their salary during the time that they work at an enterprise and said that enterprise ownership rights should be implemented.

According to Minister Tran Dinh Hoan, our country's draft labor law should have two additional sections on "jobs" and "apprentice training" (the laws of other countries do not contain such sections) in order to satisfy the real needs of laborers. But delegates Nguyen Minh Thanh (Ho Chi Minh City) and Truong Minh Thang (Minh Hai) said that a section on "apprentice training" is not needed and that this would not be fully manifested based on our national education and training system, particularly stipulations on conditions for opening vocational schools and classes and the standards of instructors and vocational students. Thus, they said that a separate section should not be created but that this should be part of the Education and Training Law. If this is mentioned in the labor law, it should be limited to training and apprenticeship at the enterprises.

There were also articles that could not be included in the draft but which were mentioned in the report prepared by the Social Affairs Committee, such as stipulations that those who use labor cannot refuse to hire women and that enterprises must rehire those who have completed various obligations. Concerning these articles, Delegate Nguyen Thi Hoai Thu (Tien Giang) said that the National Assembly should study these articles and issue suitable stipulations. If these issues are not dealt with, they should not be included in the law.

Today, the National Assembly will continue working in the assembly hall, with the morning reserved for discussing the labor law.

Discussion Continues

942E0069B Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG
in Vietnamese 29 May 93 pp 1, 7

[Article by N.T.P.]

[Text] Yesterday, 28 May 1994, the National Assembly held a plenary session in the assembly hall and continued

the debate on the draft labor law. National Assembly Vice President Phung Van Tuu presided at the meeting.

According to the agenda, this draft law was to be discussed at the morning session only, but because there were still many differences of opinion and many things that needed to be considered carefully and because many delegates had not yet spoken, the chairmen set aside the entire day to discuss the draft labor law. During the day, 30 delegates spoke, concentrating on a number of the major contents of later sections of the draft law such as the use of female laborers, wages, social insurance, the role of the primary-level trade unions, the right to strike, and so on. The issue of female laborers was one of the issues debated vigorously. The majority of those who spoke welcomed the fact that the draft has reserved almost an entire section on female laborers, which shows that the state's policies have given much attention to these labor targets. However, many people had different views on the contents of a number of specific articles in this section. Delegate Vo Thi Thang from Long An, a member of the draft committee, said that the stipulations stating that "those who use laborers cannot refuse to hire women" and "those who use laborers are responsible for organizing day nurseries and kindergartens or paying allowances to female laborers who have children of nursery or kindergarten age" are necessary stipulations that are aimed at protecting the legitimate rights of these special labor targets. This can be implemented, because Paragraph 2 of Article 110 clearly states that "the government has a policy of giving favorable treatment to and reducing the taxes of enterprises that employ many female laborers." What this means is that it is the state, and not the enterprises that employ female laborers, that is shouldering this heavy burden—if anyone thinks that giving attention to these targets is a heavy burden. But Tran Thi Le Thu (Binh Dinh), Ha Thai Binh (Soc Trang), and many other delegates expressed doubts about the ability to implement these articles. Because for a number of enterprises, even though the favorable policies of the state compensate them for the expenses involved in using female laborers, if they cannot earn as much as or more than they can by using male laborers, they will continue rejecting female laborers. Some delegates said that the words "cannot refuse" should be changed to "give priority to." On the other hand, Delegate Hoang Thi Chien (Bac Thai) said that Paragraph 1 of Article 116 is too specific. It states that "places that employ female laborers must provide places for them to change their clothes, restrooms, and menstrual room." This is not necessary, and it will just make those who employ laborers afraid of the complexities involved in employing female laborers. Giving attention to female laborers, many delegates said that the first thing that needs to be done is to create favorable conditions for them to work and maintain their standard of living. Delegate Chu Thuy Quynh (Hanoi) proposed giving women working in the arts longer pregnancy leaves than other labor targets and adding a number of

specific procedures and policies on targets working in the arts, because stipulating things as in Article 136 of the draft is not sufficient.

A number of delegates said that enterprises should be required to rehire laborers who have returned after fulfilling their military obligation. But in reality, this is very difficult to implement, because during that period, the enterprises must hire other laborers in order to maintain stability in commercial production. However, according to Tran Dinh Hoan, the minister of labor, war invalids, and social welfare, and delegates Chu Duy Kinh (Hanoi), Truong Thi Khue (Quang Tri), Pham Van Tra (Haiphong), and Huu Tho (Vinh Phu), these labor targets must be given special attention in order to mobilize everyone to defend the fatherland. The enterprises can rehire these targets, because there really aren't that many such targets and they have been trained in a good environment. Delegate Chu Duy Kinh stressed that the stability and growth of the enterprises is totally dependent on the fate of the fatherland. Because of this, the enterprises must give favorable treatment to those laborers who have fulfilled their duty in defending the fatherland, both in hiring new laborers and rehiring laborers.

Of course, the labor law must also protect the legitimate and legal rights of those who employ laborers. Agreeing with this viewpoint, many delegates said that the stipulation that advances must be given to laborers who have been temporarily detained or jailed or who are absent from work because of power or water failures and that employers must pay these laborers at least the minimum wage is irrational. Many people requested that a clear distinction be made between laborers who have been temporarily detained and those temporarily jailed and said that they should be dealt with differently.

As for social insurance, some delegates said that requiring the enterprises to contribute 15 percent is too much. They proposed 10 percent instead. But according to Minister Tran Dinh Hoan, even with the enterprises contributing 15 percent, the state must pay the bulk in order to aid the laborers.

Delegate Nguyen Van Tu (Dong Nai) stressed strengthening the role and position of the primary-level trade union organizations by supplementing and amending a number of specific articles in the draft law.

Concerning strikes, almost all of the delegates agreed that there must be a law to provide guidelines. At the same time, limits must be set in certain circumstances in order to avoid the consequences of abuses of this right.

With respect to foreigners working in Vietnam, Delegate Pham Quang Du (Ho Chi Minh City) said that there are special and pressing circumstances and that more convenient procedures should be stipulated.

Even though the issue of labor age was discussed at length during the two previous sessions, it was discussed again during yesterday's session. Delegate Tran Thi

Thanh Thanh asked that the articles on youth labor and state aid for individuals and organizations that provide jobs be supplemented.

As for the number of holidays, Delegate Cu Hoa Van said that the number of holidays stated in the law should not exceed the number of holidays long in effect. The National Assembly delegation from Vinh Phu Province officially proposed that the law designate the anniversary of the death of To Hung Vuong as a holiday.

After examining the sections and articles, many delegates voiced the opinion that the labor law must be in accord with the country's real conditions, satisfy the national development requirements, and be capable of being implemented.

The National Assembly will not meet today. On 30 May, the National Assembly will begin examining the draft tax law and law on transferring land use rights. Almost 30 delegates have registered to speak, but because they won't all have time to speak, their ideas will be recorded in a document and sent to the session secretariat.

* General Doan Khue Comments on Defense Work

942E0060A Hanoi TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN in Vietnamese Apr 94 pp ?

[Article by Senior General Doan Khue, Member of the CPV Politburo and Minister of National Defense: "The Great Victory of Dien Bien Phu and the Task of Defending the Socialist Fatherland"]

[Text] The task of renovating the socialist fatherland today continues the undertaking and great victories of Dien Bien Phu and the anti-French and anti-U.S. resistance wars under new historical conditions. The traditions and experiences of the successful lessons of the Dien Bien Phu campaign, the winter-spring campaign of 1953-1954, and our two patriotic wars in the past still live and have a great practical significance. They must be carried on, applied, and developed in the task of renovating socialism in general and defending the socialist fatherland today specifically.

1. Applying and developing the lessons learned from victoriously implementing the line of resistance war by all the people of our Party and President Ho Chi Minh, in order to attain the goals of the national democratic revolution. The task of defending the socialist fatherland today must fully manifest the Party's line of renovating socialism and have the goals of a prosperous people, a strong nation, a just society, and the civilization of the socialist revolution. This combined closely with the two strategic missions of "building socialism and defending the fatherland" set forth in the Program of the Seventh Party Congress. On the basis of the special characteristics, directions, immediate goals, and over-all goals, as well as the major decisions regarding the economy, society, national defense-security, foreign affairs, and constructing a political system, we must resolve the basic

problems of the task of defending the fatherland correctly. In other words, on the basis of the operational laws of waging patriotic war and on the basis of the present line of renovating socialism, we must discover and correctly and creatively apply the laws of defending the socialist fatherland in peacetime and be prepared to cope with any situation.

By means of recapitulating the actual situation and studying theory during more than seven years of renovation, the resolution of the mid-term national party conference and the resolution of the mid-term all-armed forces party conference indicated in a specific manner the basic contents of the renovation task and the task of bolstering national defense by all the people and building up the people's armed forces in the future.

Fully imbued with the spirit of Dien Bien Phu—manifesting determination to fulfill any new missions posed in the process of armed struggle and revolutionary war—today our people must manifest a spirit of independence, autonomy, and self-strengthening, take advantage of favorable opportunities, overcome all challenges and perils, and endeavor to gradually shift the renovation task over to a new period of development. Our people's armed forces must, along with the entire population, do a truly good job of fulfilling the mission of defending the fatherland, opposing "peaceful evolution" and "violent overthrow," and be prepared to cope victoriously with all complicated situations that could occur at sea, on islands, along the border, and in the key areas, and be prepared to defeat all limited armed aggression and even a war of aggression on any scale. They must contribute creatively to political stability, strengthen peace, and defend the enterprise of developing the economy and building the nation.

2. We must develop the accomplishments regarding the theory and practice of people's war during the 1953-1954 winter-spring campaign and the resistance war against the U.S. imperialist aggressors from 1954 to 1975 in order to build a national defense by all the people, on the basis of the situation and the accomplishments of the renovation task. If the highest goal of the patriotic wars in the past was to defeat the aggressor army and conclude the war victoriously, the primary goal of national defense by all the people is to maintain a peaceful, stable situation in order to defend the homeland without resorting to war, while also preparing for and carrying out war to defend the fatherland. National defense by all the people against foreign enemies—aggressor troops—and even internal enemies—reactionaries within the country—and even against "peaceful evolution" and "violent overthrow," unarmed aggressive schemes, and all forms of traditional aggressive war waged by armed forces.

The strength of national defense by all the people is not only military strength but also combines military, political, diplomatic, economic, scientific-technical, ideological, and cultural strength. Above all, it is strength of the close combination of national defense, security, and

diplomacy. That national defense is also a modern national defense that is capable of bankrupting plots to commit sabotage, take over our territory, and wage a war of aggression by means of weapons, modern war facilities, and hi-tech weapons.

Under the conditions of developing a market economy, and gradually building a socialist state governed by law and led by our Party, it is necessary to build a national defense that truly has a mass nature. Bringing into play the ardent patriotic tradition of our people and armed forces in the Dien Bien Phu campaign and in the anti-French and anti-U.S. resistance wars, we must teach our troops and people of today to manifest a spirit of patriotism, be vigilant, and fulfill their obligation of defending the homeland. We must positively create defensive zones and improve upon their quality. We need to create a people's war battlefield position that is closely combined with a people's security battlefield position, especially in the key areas. We must combine the economy with national defense and national defense with the economy, and the other aspects of construction in order to create national defense potential in all regards. We must build an infrastructure to meet all needs of economic development and the strengthening of national defense. We must strengthen, and improve the quality of, mobilized reserve troops and militia and self-defense forces. We must make good preparations for wartime mobilization.

We must strengthen the leadership of the Party and the state's management of national defense and closely combine national defense with security. The state must codify the lines, stands, and policies of the Party, set up a national defense legal system, organize the specialized organs, determine the strategy of and plan the task of building national defense, renovate the system of national defense policies and policies toward the army, and create a new, close, and steadfast social relationship between the people and the people's army and between building socialism and defending the socialist homeland.

In Dien Bien Phu and during the 1953-1954 winter-spring campaign we received only some international assistance. During the anti-U.S. resistance war we received great assistance from the socialist countries with regard to weapons, equipment, and material-technical means. It is different today: we must build a national defense by all the people that is independent, autonomous, and self-reliant. That must be based on the accomplishments of the task of renovation in general and modernization in particular in building national defense industry and produce or purchase the necessary equipment and weapons to meet the needs of gradually modernizing the army and the needs of war to defend the fatherland under modern conditions. We must closely combine the people's livelihood with national defense and create national defense strength that is integrally bound to the economy, and arises from the strength of the socialist regime in the renovation task.

3. Building on the experiences of creating outstanding maturation of our army at Dien Bien Phu, especially experiences in creating main-force units in the resistance wars against France and the U.S., we must endeavor to bring about a new development in the quality and fighting strength of the people's armed forces, especially of a people's army that is revolutionary, professional, and elite, gradually modernizes, and makes political development the base. We must concentrate on building the people's army "politically, ideologically, and organizationally." We must teach our army to have a truly strong fighting spirit and bring into play the tradition of "loyal to the Party, loyal to the nation, and filial to the people," the tradition of patriotism, mutual aid, and love of socialism, and the tradition of "readiness to fight and sacrifice for the independence and freedom of the fatherland and for socialism" We must teach limitless loyalty to national independence and socialism. We must create a "close, fraternal relationship between the army and the people," like the "troops of Uncle Ho at Dien Bien Phu and the civilian labor brigades at the front" and "the rear area competes with the front," as well as truly democratic and equal internal relationships, harmony between cadres and men, a spirit of humanism, and respect for people who fight together for a common goal.

Especially, we must train the troops to become expert in the basic technical and tactical actions so that they can attain good, solid skills, use all equipment and weapons expertly, create many secret, unexpected fighting methods, using few to defeat many and using small forces to win big victories. We must have keen scientific thought in order to act in a timely manner under all circumstances. Attention must be paid to passing on and disseminating to the succeeding generation of servicemen and cadres the combat experiences and the many other rich experiences that have been accumulated over many decades of waging people's war. Troops must be trained to rely on the battlefield position, the defensive zones, and the on-the-spot forces of the people in order to fight with the greatest combined strength and defeat all "peaceful evolution" and "violent overthrow" plots and acts, as well as the insidious schemes of the hostile powers in peacetime, while being prepared to victoriously wage people's war to defend the fatherland when necessary. Our army must carry out the task of building political bases positively. At the same time, it is necessary to work actively in production, develop the economy in accordance with responsibilities that have been assigned, and participate in building the nation.

On the basis of organizing forces appropriate to peacetime, we must perfect organization so that it is expert, streamlined, and dynamic, with the kinds of forces and troops that are appropriate to the requirement of being prepared to act and maintaining a high degree of combat readiness. We must do a good job of recruiting troops in accordance with standards, for only then can we ensure that the quality of new recruits will meet the requirements of building the people's army and defending the fatherland in the new phase. The ranks of the cadres and

officers must be improved so that their educational level can equal that of party and state cadres. They must have a high level of military-political specialization, have general knowledge of social science and liberal arts, have virtue and a good work style, and include the nation's talents with regard to national defense and military matters, who are also prepared to work in the economic sectors. We must improve weapons and technical equipment and "gradually and selectively modernize some types of essential weapons and equipment." We must develop and perfect the military science and art of national defense by all the people and people's war to defend the socialist fatherland. We must further promote the building of a conventional army in accordance with the goals that have been set. We must improve material lives and morale and ensure that the people's armed forces and strong and capable of fulfilling all missions.

Promoting the building of the people's armed forces and the People's Army along the lines of carrying on and developing the rich experiences of our troops and people in the Dien Bien Phu campaign and in the resistance wars against France and the U.S. aggressors would be a practical way to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnam People's Army (1944-1994) and the major celebrations during 1995.

TAP CHI CONG SAN

* TAP CHI CONG SAN for March 94

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The Problem and Reality of 'Hot Spots' in Thanh Hoa

943E0011A Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Mar 94 pp 49-52

[Article by Nhi Le]

[Text] The concept of "hot spots" has appeared here in recent years. But what are "hot spots?" Looking at many different events in many places, many people think that a "hot spot" is a place where a major or even fierce struggle is going on among the people over some issue in a particular sphere (from a hamlet or village on up). The matter cannot be resolved on the spot and requires

intervention on the part of the party committee echelons, the authorities, and judicial organizations from the primary level on up.

Thanh Hoa is one province where a rather large number of "hot spots" have appeared since the end of 1988. The first was the land dispute that arose between the Thanh Son Cooperative and the Sao Vang State Farm (subordinate to Xuan Son Village in Tho Xuan District) on 22 November 1988. Other disputes arose at the end of 1989. Most of the "hot spots" are in rural areas, and they are concentrated in places where the population density is high and where order and security have always been a problem. The "hot spots" are mainly at the level of the hamlet and village, with a few at the city level. From 22 November 1988 to 30 December 1992, there have been eight hot spots in Hau Loc District, six in Tho Xuan District, six in Cam Thuy District, five in Ngoc Lac District, five in Trieu Son District, nine in Thanh Hoa City, and two each in the cities of Bim Son and Sam Son. The thing to note is that "hot spots" have a tendency to "expand" rather rapidly, and they are concentrated in a short time period. For example, in 1992 alone, there were five hot spots in Ngoc Lac, four in Trieu Son, six in Hau Loc, and three in Thieu Yen. By 12 November 1993, a total of 120 "hot spots" had appeared in Thanh Hoa. Analyzing those 120 hot spots shows the following:

Scale: Sixty-five percent of the disputes were confined to a single village, almost 18 percent of the disputes were confined to villages within a single district, more than 5 percent involved villages in different districts, and other types accounted for more than 7 percent.

Form: Fifty-four percent of the disputes concerned arable land, 19 percent had to do with a loss of solidarity between the people and the cadres at the primary level, 19.5 percent concerned loss of solidarity among the people, and 7.5 percent were disputes within state organizations.

Nature: Conflicts concerning land (which accounted for most of the disputes), conflicts between the people and civil service organizations, conflicts involving a struggle for power and material rights, and conflicts that broke out suddenly.

Degree: Eleven percent of the conflicts have been very fierce, 49 percent have been tense, and 40 percent have been "smoldering."

The Reasons for the "Hot Spots"

There are three main reasons:

1. There are hot spots that have arisen because some of the leading and managerial cadres at the primary level are corrupt and have violated the ownership rights of the people. The majority of the party members and people detest these people and have denounced them and filed complaints against them, but their violations have not been investigated or dealt with promptly and resolutely, with the result that the masses do not understand things

and lack confidence. In some places, the masses suspect that the district is covering up the mistakes of the primary-level cadres, which has made the situation even more complex and tense.

Making use of this situation, a number of evil elements, including dissatisfied and opportunistic cadres and party members have incited a number of people whose vigilance is poor to go to extremes in waging struggles, which has led to people violating the principles of the party and the laws of the state. Widely used forms include organizing suits in many places, making excessive demands, insulting the cadres and party members who have made mistakes based on "self-judgment," and taking people hostage. This has led to conflicts between a number of people and the primary- and district-level leadership organizations and the internal affairs, public security, control, and inspection sectors.

Looking at the "hot spots" of Nam Giang in Tho Xuan District, Tho Ngoc in Trieu Son District, Tien Loc in Hau Loc District, and Quang Loc in Quang Xuong District, it can be seen that they arose for the reasons mentioned above and exhibit the above manifestations. These are complex "hot spots" that all have "leaders" and "instigators." The "leader" may be a single individual or a group of people. These people have organized themselves, there are "leaders," there is a division of labor, and they have established illegal organizations using the words "open and democratic," "anti-corruption front," and "anti-negative association" in order to trick party members and the masses into following them. On the other hand, they also use people with police records and hoodlums to put pressure on the authorities and internal affairs sectors, terrorize and threaten those who are waging an honest struggle, spread false information, look for ways to neutralize the party and administrative apparatus, and force the districts and provinces to do what they want.

2. There are hot spots that have arisen because of disputes about administrative boundaries, land, markets, and so on between different hamlets and villages and, in some cases between two villages in different districts. Those disputes that have not been resolved promptly by the echelons and sectors with jurisdiction have resulted in spontaneous clashes between large numbers of people. At the same time, the authorities and bases have been put in a passive position and have not been able to control the situation. Or because they are biased, they have "followed" the masses. There have even been cases in which the militia and self-defense forces have been mobilized to attack people, which has had serious consequences and had a bad effect on hamlet and village order and security and internal security among the people. The problems between Quang Phuc and Quang Vong in Quang Xuong District, between Dong Quang and Dong Van in Dong Son District, between Quy Loc and Yen Tho in Thieu Yen District, and between Vinh Quang in Vinh Loc District and Cam Van in Cam Thuy District are all of this type. This type of "hot spot" usually arises in a relatively short period of

time, but the consequences are immeasurable and this has caused many difficulties and problems in handling things using administrative and judicial measures. Furthermore, there are usually a large number of people participating at these "hot spots" and so it is difficult to determine the causes. Because of this, it is easy to forget about taking legal action against the criminals. As of 17 June 1992, Thanh Hoa had four such "hot spots." Even though the situation had been stabilized, the criminals had not been prosecuted.

3. Finally, there are hot spots that have arisen spontaneously for a variety of reasons. For example, some people have blocked and opposed those who are carrying out their public functions, and evil elements have "made a mountain out of a molehill" of this. This type of "hot spot" usually arises in places where order and security is a problem. At the same time, the local authorities and internal affairs organizations are weak and unable to handle specific situations, with the result that "hot spots" can arise and expand. Studying the hot spots: there was a fight between members of Unit 3 and Unit 9 in Tan Tuong Village, Tinh Gia District; there was a clash between Thanh Hoa City public security forces and the railroad station defense forces; there were two disturbances at the provincial people's court; and there was the case of people falsely accusing public security forces of beating someone to death and then stealing a public security vehicle and taking the body to the provincial CPV organization to jeer and incite people. All of these have a similar form.

Handling the "Hot Spots"—Initial lessons

Looking at the 120 hot spots in the past 5 years, as of 12 November 1993, Thanh Hoa had basically resolved more than 97 percent of the cases. Of these, almost 24 percent of the cases had been fully resolved, and almost 40 percent of the hot spots had been basically stabilized. The remaining cases are in the process of being concluded. To gain experience and preliminarily summarize the process of handling the hot spots, Thanh Hoa will organize a special symposium. But based on the successes and failures in dealing with a number of broad, complex, and serious hot spots, we can learn a number of lessons:

1. Discovering things early, finding the real reasons, and advancing ideological work:

The successes in handling the hot spots in Thanh Hoa show that there must be an attitude of fairness. Also, the situation must be evaluated carefully and objectively, and the true causes and nature of the matter must be found in order to have suitable means to deal with the matter. Whenever there are signs that a "hot spot" is arising or that a new hot spot has recently arisen, the organizations responsible must find out what the real reasons are and analyze the nature of the conflict. At the same time, they must organize work teams consisting of capable cadres who have great prestige, who are experienced in party work and mass mobilization, and who are

skilled in dealing with various situations and skillfully insert them into the "hot spots." Through the highly trusted people on the spot, they must clarify the problems and, together with the people, discuss and resolve the issues and problems on the spot, including those of relatives of the targets, in order to "gradually reduce the temperature," "ease the situation," and "defuse the situation." In particular, in places where the masses can easily be incited and already have problems with the leaders, ideological work must be carried on resolutely and skillfully in order to create good public opinion. The more good pressure is applied by the people, the better the results will be. The hot spots in Vinh Ninh in Vinh Loc District, Tan Lap in Ba Thuoc District, and Dong Hung in Thanh Hoa City were dealt with mainly in this way. And based on this method, almost 25 percent of the hot spots in Thanh Hoa have been basically "defused."

2. Using economic measures in conjunction with improving the apparatus and cadre work:

Handling the "hot spots" will take time. This cannot be rushed. Things cannot be done in a subjective manner, and stages cannot be skipped. At the same time, things cannot be delayed, which would allow the situation to drag on. Reality shows that if such situations are allowed to drag on, efforts to resolve matters will encounter many complex difficulties. Thus, there are things that must be carried on tensely, especially tasks related to stabilizing life at the primary level, particularly economic life. For example, the "hot spots" that have difficulties concerning work formulas can be guided and given help in building a number of infrastructural and public welfare projects in order to involve the people in production and reduce their concerns.

On the other hand, tasks related to organizing and solidifying the apparatus and strengthening the cadres must be handled promptly, and those who have committed violations, particularly cadres and party members who have clearly committed violations and who no longer have the confidence of the people, must be dealt with, which includes taking legal action against them, recovering things and paying material damages (if any), and doing things openly before the people.

The experiences in handling the hot spots in Tho Ngoc in Trieu Son District, Nam Giang in Tho Xuan District, Quang Loc in Quang Xuong District, Nga Thach in Nga Son District, and a number of other complex spots in Tho Xuan and Cam Thuy show that this is a very important measure that is in accord with the legitimate demands of the cadres, party members, and masses and that manifests the strictness of the law. If these problems are solved well, there will no longer be any reasons that dissatisfied and extremist elements can use to complicate the situation.

3. Dealing with things promptly and resolutely from within:

Taking resolute action against cadres and party members who participate in the "hot spots" is both urgent and

necessary in order to "set an example" for the people. This is very important for blocking and handling the "hot spots." The experiences in dealing with typical hot spots such as Tho Ngoc, Quang Loc, Nam Giang, and Nga Thach show this very clearly. For example, in the Tho Ngoc case, one person was disciplined and expelled from the party, three were given warnings, and the chairman of the village people's committee, the head of the village public security force, and the secretary of the village CPV committee were dismissed from office. In particular, Le Hong Bao, the cooperative director, was tried and sentenced to 5 years in prison. As a result, the problems there were basically solved, the situation at Tho Ngoc stabilized, and the village has continued to advance. When handling the hot spots in Quang Loc, Nam Giang, and Nga Thach, 29 party members there were disciplined. Following this, other hot spots declined in intensity, and this created a good tendency for handling other spots on a provincial scale.

Something that should be noted is that with respect to the "leaders," in general, an open attitude and flexible measures for dealing with them are required. There must be a dialogue. People must listen to their ideas, analyze things, and persuade them. At the same time, we must adhere to the principles and resolutely criticize their extremist actions that violate the law. The die-hard instigators and leaders must be differentiated from those who have been misled or used, with appropriate methods used to deal with each type of target.

Along with dealing with things promptly and resolutely from within, troublemakers and hoodlums and those who "grope for fish in muddy waters" must be resolutely suppressed in accord with the law. The sympathy and support of the people must be obtained, and spontaneous actions that cause trouble must definitely be avoided. This is a very important guideline for handling things. The five prison sentences meted out to the above targets at four "hot spots" (with the stiffest sentence being 12 years in prison and the lightest being 2 years) clearly affirms that "being strict both within and among the masses" has a great effect in dealing with the hot spots.

4. The independence of the bases must be strengthened, but the close leadership and guidance of higher echelons must be maintained.

In order to deal with the hot spots, the party committee echelons and authorities, from the primary to the district level, must do things actively and speedily under the close leadership and guidance of the provincial CPV committee and provincial people's committee. In particular, there must be a high degree of unanimity from top to bottom in determining the reasons for the rise of "hot spots" and formulating solutions. Simple, subjective, and quick methods and a desire to deal with things immediately using rigid methods must be opposed. On the other hand, rightist thinking and not daring to deal with things must be opposed, and the concept of relying on others must be opposed: the primary level waiting on

the district, the districts waiting on the province, and the functional sectors shifting responsibility to each other. The methods used to deal with the hot spots must be synchronized. Educating, propagandizing, and mobilizing the masses must go hand in hand with solidifying the party and administrative organizations and dealing with things using administrative and judicial measures.

As for the complex "hot spots," particularly the burning and very tense hot spots, work groups or teams headed by a key leader must be formed and sent to the hot spots. They must have full power to deal with the situation, and they will be responsible to higher echelons for their actions. What must be emphasized is that enforcing the laws at the hot spots must be based above all on having accurate and timely information, serving as the staff for the leaders, and dealing effectively with situations on the spot swiftly and safely.

As for hot spots in the hamlets, the villages must handle things on their own, with the district monitoring things and providing help. When the hot spots are in the villages, the district must personally handle things, with the province monitoring things and providing help. Based on their functions and tasks, the committees and sectors at the provincial level must help the districts. The province must not do things in place of the districts, but it must not be lax in providing leadership and guidance or slight its responsibilities.

Proposals Based on Realities

From the realities in Thanh Hoa, in order to actively prevent hot spots from arising and to continue dealing effectively with those hot spots that have arisen with the aim of maintaining stability and promoting development from the primary level, I would like to propose the following:

First, the central echelon should soon review the work of building and solidifying the bases and improving the quality of the ranks of cadres and party members. It should strengthen propaganda activities, give the cadres and people at the primary level an all-round education, particularly concerning legal matters, overcome the "illiteracy" concerning judicial knowledge, and standardize judicial knowledge for the key leaders and managers at the primary level. At the same time, the central echelon should soon review and learn the lessons in building models of organizations subordinate to the primary-level authorities (hamlet and village) and in regulating the activities of the hamlet and village heads so that these can be used on a nationwide scale.

Second, the central echelon should soon revise the laws and documents under the law to concretize dealing with the petitions and complaints of citizens. It must provide guidance in formulating concrete solutions based on the functions and powers of each echelon and sector with respect to the above tasks in order to ensure that the complaints of the people are dealt with effectively, promptly, and in accord with the law and in order to overcome the situation in which people simply try to

shift the responsibility to someone else, which weakens the confidence of the masses.

Third, the central echelon should soon promulgate regulations in order to put an end to the confusion. These should deal with such things as, How should the internal affairs forces be used to deal with the hot spots? What should the contents of "martial law" orders be? And how should the mass means of information convey information to the hot spots in order to ensure accuracy and to prevent the enemy from making use of this and distorting the situation?

Symposium on the Democratic Socialist Trend

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[Article by Trinh Cuong]

[Text] In Hanoi, the State-Level Scientific Topic KX01-02 Group recently organized a symposium on the democratic socialist (DS) trend. A large number of scientists from many organs and research institutes took part in the symposium. After having listened to the introductory guidelines presented by Dao Duy Quat, MA, deputy director of the Institute of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought and head of the KX01-02 Group, these participants discussed the following major topics:

1. Ways to evaluate and recognize the DS trend.

All speakers unanimously believed that the DS trend basically shows no differences as compared to the evaluation made by Marx, Engels, and Lenin in the past. However, presently this trend shows many changes and a leftist tendency. In short, the DS trend contains factors both positive and negative. The degree of intensity within these factors depends on each party and each period of time.

Positive aspects: Because they are aware of the profound contradictions between capitalism and labor, the rich and the poor, and the developed and developing countries, the democratic socialists have stood up (to a certain degree) for the interests of the working people. In addition, the DS trend shows a number of progressive factors, such as recommending the concept of economic development being linked with environmental protection, advancing the position of resolving international conflicts by means of peaceful dialogue, and so on.

Negative aspects: The trend really aims its activities at defending and maintaining capitalism, fighting communism, fighting socialist realism, and rejecting Marxist-Leninist views. As to its origin, the DS trend first appeared in Germany. It originated from Kant's moral philosophy; was influenced by the so-called "authentic German socialism"; was both very illusionary and abstract, reformist, and opposed to revolution by force; rejected the social class character and stressed the community one, and so on, as Marx had critically commented in his lifetime.

2. (Theoretical) relations between modern capitalism and democratic socialism.

Modern capitalism and democratic socialism are two models having similarities and differences.

Similarities: Both models have existed and are existing within the framework of modern capitalism. As compared to other bourgeois parties, when the DS party is in power, it pays more attention to the interests of the working people. However, its policy is *not to go beyond* the limits that the bourgeoisie "cannot bear." Its position is to *regulate* the contradictions between labor and capitalism, not to abolish them. As a result, even if it is in an opposition position, it struggles only to the extent that the bourgeois forces can take as a concession. As for modern capitalism, it is capitalism that has had to make a specific adjustment in regard to the production relationships and ruling formula so as to conform to the era and to maintain its existence. This adjustment has been compulsory because of the development of productivity resulting from, on the one hand, the scientific and technical revolution and, on the other, the changing balance of power in individual countries and in the world. In addition, it has been acted on by socialist realism, by the national liberation movement, as well as by the DS trend.

Differences: Democratic socialism and modern capitalism are two forces that act on each other so as to create a "common society" that both can accept. However, in this "common society," the people who get more benefits are the bourgeoisie, not the working people.

3. What can we glean from studying the DS trend?

First of all, we can say that because the DS trend is reformist and relatively independent compared to capitalism, it has a high degree of adjustability and attractiveness to the masses. However, as we know, this trend carries both positive and negative factors. Therefore, it is quite necessary to distinguish between these factors. The following are the factors that people normally consider positive in the DS trend: the views on peace, opposition to the arms race, environmental protection, market economy, democratization, the legal-power state, the concept of self-criticism, perfecting of the method to attract the masses, and so on.

In a country like ours where the power belongs to the people and leadership is assumed by the Communist Party, consultations can take place in regard to some experiences in the DS trend as follows: heightening the legal-power role of the state, achieving the market economy in society, regulating the interests of social classes and strata through the welfare and social security system, finding the right mechanism to properly resolve the relations between employers and workers, ensuring solidarity and social stability, and so on.

* TAP CHI CONG SAN for April 94

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Great National Unity, a Major Lesson of the Vietnamese Revolution

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[Article by Le Quang Dao, secretary of the Party Group in the Vietnam Fatherland Front]

[Text] Reality has shown that, in the process of revolutionary struggle, whenever we know how to hold high the national banner to achieve great national unity and to bring into play national strength in combination with international strength, the revolution can surmount all difficulties, no matter how great they are. On the contrary, whenever we make light of the national factor and commit errors regarding great national unity and international unity, the revolution encounters not a few difficulties and obstacles. President Ho Chi Minh summed up this *major lesson* of the Vietnamese revolution in a succinct statement: "Unity, unity, great unity; success, success, great success."

I. Great National Unity in the New Situation

The greatest characteristic of the world situation since World War II has been the disintegration of the colony system of colonialism and neocolonialism. The Vietnamese revolution made important contributions to that disintegration.

At present, developing countries are being faced with both new opportunities and challenges; they have to conduct an extremely difficult and complex struggle to extricate themselves from poverty and backwardness and to firmly maintain national independence and sovereignty. This is currently a major international issue. Some countries that have not regained independence have to continue to fight for it. Some that have become independent still have to struggle against the economic, cultural, and political invasion of hostile forces and against schemes to sabotage and destroy their real independence.

There still are many other major issues in the current world situation requiring that nations should unite and support one another in the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress and should work together to resolve pressing global issues.

Therefore, to deal with the national issue does not mean to mention only the interests of each nation; on the

contrary, we must touch upon unity, friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance among nations in the struggle for the common objectives and common tasks of the world people.

In Vietnam, since 1986 our people have recorded very important initial achievements in implementing the party's renovation line. We "have escaped from recession and have made an important step in extricating ourselves from the socioeconomic crisis." There are now highly favorable conditions for us to keep advancing and to further promote industrialization and modernization. But Vietnam remains essentially a backward agricultural country, social productivity is still very low, and there still are many difficulties such as the still high rate of inflation (despite the progress made in reducing it to a single digit), the still considerable budget deficit, and the still large numbers of unemployed and underemployed people (about 2 million in the cities and 6 million in the rural areas). Although the people's standard of living in general has been improved, many difficulties still exist. The scourges of corruption and smuggling remain severe. Other social evils are also spreading. Many destabilizing factors remain.

The comprehensive renovation line has given rise to numerous new, positive factors and has created favorable conditions for strengthening the great national unity and for consolidating and broadening the National United Front; but many new problems and contradictions have inevitably cropped up that should be given due attention and correctly resolved. Failure to resolve them in a satisfactory manner would hurt the great national unity, restrict positive factors, increase negative factors, and cause instability.

Meanwhile, hostile forces are making every effort to carry out their "scheme of peaceful evolution" to sow disunity among nationalities and religions, to drive a wedge between the people and the party and between the people and our administration, and so forth.

Worthy of note among the changes in the domestic situation is the change in social structure marked by the appearance of several different classes and social strata. In particular, a contingent of private businessmen has taken shape and tends to expand strongly. Moreover, most of these private businessmen are intellectuals and educated people, among them cadres, party members, and revolutionary families. They have scientific and technical knowledge, managerial skill, and capital and are also capable of mobilizing domestic and foreign capital. If we know how to unite and lead it well, this new social stratum will play a positive role in national construction. Otherwise, it will develop perniciously and negatively. At present, the working class itself has developed in a highly diversified manner and comprises state workers, collective workers, private workers, and workers of joint ventures with foreign countries. But whatever the changes, workers remain a class. It is necessary to bring into play the very important role of the working class in the bloc of great national unity and

in national construction and defense. The intelligentsia has also undergone many changes. As for the peasantry, it is being subject to a major differentiation, which divides it into rich peasants, middle-class peasants, poor peasants, farm owners, and hired hands.

In a market economy, differentiation between the rich and the poor and uneven development among various strata of the population are inevitable. The important thing is that we must encourage all people to enrich themselves legitimately and lawfully, to help one another eliminate hunger and reduce poverty in the most efficient possible manner, and to realize at all costs Uncle Ho's long-cherished wish, namely "the poor have enough to eat, those having enough to eat become better off, and the rich become even richer." Concerning the domestic situation, there also are several other major issues to which we should pay attention. For example:

—Overseas Vietnamese (about 2 million). These Vietnamese left the country for a variety of reasons and at different times, but most departed after the South was liberated.

These Vietnamese have now settled down in more than 40 countries, with most living in the United States, France, Germany, Australia, Canada.... Their numbers will not probably stop at the 2-million mark and are likely to change. In the future, when international exchanges develop, some of the Vietnamese laborers and intellectuals currently working abroad will come back to work in Vietnam while some in the country—including the children of our cadres and party members—will go overseas. Depending on the development of the domestic and international situation, the numbers of these people may change. The question is how we should unite with the overseas Vietnamese to meet their legitimate demands and aspirations and to bring into play their capability to participate in national construction.

—The millions who worked under the former Southern regime. Generally speaking, those living in the country have integrated into the national community. After the liberation of South Vietnam, there was no "blood bath" and revenge as enemy propaganda had warned. Whether they now live in Vietnam or abroad, the overwhelming majority of people who used to work under the former Southern regime wish to achieve national unity to build the fatherland and to bring about a stable life in prosperity for all. However, prejudices, complexes, and even hatred still exist at varying degrees between many of these people and members of the resistance and revolution. Therefore, uniting all the people of goodwill who worked under the former regime and turning their capability to good account is still a major issue. It is recalled that, following the success of the August Revolution, Uncle Ho and our party had effectively used a great many people who had worked under the former regime, including some very prominent, high-ranking persons.

In our country, there are 54 nationalities and more than 10 religions including six major religions, a fact that poses several new, complicated problems that should be satisfactorily resolved. Not much of our party's and state's correct positions and policies on achieving socioeconomic development in the mountain regions and on resolving the nationality issue have been implemented. The minority nationalities inhabiting remote mountainous areas still live in utter destitution. Only by drawing up plans to actively resolve the problem of promoting socioeconomic development in the mountain regions and in areas inhabited by minority nationalities will we be able to achieve equality among nationalities and strengthen their unity.

Under our open-door policy, the number of foreigners residing and earning their living in Vietnam will keep increasing. We should also strengthen unity with these people in accordance with our law and with international practice.

In the new situation, in addition to their common, similar interests and aspirations, the various classes and social strata also have different, particular interests, different ways of thinking, different nationalities, and different religious beliefs.

In view of such social changes and developments and faced with new opportunities and new challenges, we must achieve great national unity, strengthen the National United Front, and rally all the forces that can be rallied to seize the opportunities, overcome the challenges, and frustrate all schemes and activities of various hostile forces to divide and sabotage us. We must concentrate on fulfilling by all means the principal, immediate revolutionary task of national construction and defense, thereby enabling our country to escape from poverty and backwardness at an early date, eventually to become modernized, prosperous, powerful, and civilized, and to firmly maintain national independence, unification, and sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

II. The Tasks of the National United Front

In the present stage, the common tasks of the National United Front are: "Develop the tradition of patriotism, national pride, and the sense of self-reliance; unite all Vietnamese who approve of the renovation undertaking for the purpose of firmly maintaining national independence, unification, and sovereignty, and territorial integrity; strive to escape from poverty and backwardness at an early date and to advance to make the people prosperous, the country powerful, and society equitable and civilized, thereby realizing President Ho Chi Minh's sacred testament, namely building a peaceful, unified, independent, democratic, prosperous, and powerful Vietnam and positively contributing to the cause of peace, independence, democracy, and progress in the world."

To fulfill these tasks, we should thoroughly understand the following major policies, which are also major viewpoints embodying our party's guiding thought in the

effort to achieve great national unity and strengthen the National United Front in the current stage of the revolution.

1. Unite with all people of various classes, social strata, nationalities, and religions, and with those Vietnamese residing in the country and abroad who approve of the aforementioned objectives and who strive for their fulfillment. Use those objectives as a common rallying point and, at the same time, accept differences that are not contrary to the common national interests. Erase prejudices, complexes, and hatred; look toward the future; and unite with one another for the sake of national independence and for the people's freedom and happiness.

We are all aware that if there had been no differences between classes, social strata, nationalities, religions, and so forth, the National United Front would not have been necessary, and that if there had been no common objectives to serve as a common rallying point, the National United Front could not have taken shape. We always hold fast to the policy of building the country along the line of socialism, in accordance with the socialist orientation and with the party's Platform and Strategy for Socioeconomic Development. But, to rally all the forces that can be rallied to carry out revolutionary tasks, it is necessary to implement the policy of great national unity and to consolidate and broaden the National United Front to attain the aforementioned common objectives.

2. In addition to the common objectives, we must also have correct positions, policies, and laws in all fields—economic, political, cultural, social, security, national defense, and foreign relations—to meet the legitimate aspirations and interests of the various classes and social strata. There must be correct positions and policies to promote socioeconomic development, to ceaselessly improve and raise the standard of living of various strata of the people, to ensure national defense and security, and, at the same time, to correctly resolve the relationship between personal and common interests and the contradictions cropping up among the people. Moreover, it is necessary to motivate the people to help one another in production, in daily life, and in distress and to step up humanitarian and charitable activities out of love for their compatriots and comrades and in keeping with our ancestors' tradition of benevolence and righteousness.

There must be correct positions and policies to care for the legitimate interests of the various classes and social strata, such as the land policy for peasants; the employment and wages policy for workers; the policy of protecting the legitimate interests of workers and of their employers in various economic sectors; the policy of training intellectuals and putting talents in important positions; the policies concerning the armed forces, war invalids, war dead, people who have rendered meritorious services to the revolution, women, the younger generation; and so forth. Only in this way will we be able to unite and rally all forces and to broaden the bloc of

great national unity. We have accomplished part of this task, but much remains to be done, particularly in the field of legislation. We should reexamine and revise what is no longer suitable, supplement what is inadequate, and promulgate necessary new policies and laws to complete the legal system of our state at an early date. In addition to having correct policies and laws, we must also see to it that they are seriously and uniformly implemented. Only in this way will they have the desired effects and increase the people's confidence.

3. We must build an administration that is really of the people, by the people, and for the people. The administration bears very great responsibility for enacting policies and laws to strengthen and safeguard the bloc of great national unity, to develop the economy, to resolve social issues, to consolidate national defense and security, to protect public order and security, to develop national culture, and to build new people.

We must implement the policy of great national unity right in the organization and operations of the administrative machinery. The administrative organizations and the Front must rely on each other, coordinate with each other, and create proper conditions for each other to operate efficiently.

4. We must broaden the bloc of great national unity in diverse forms suitable for each circle, each social stratum, each locality, and each primary organization. Depending on the situation, tasks, and the masses' requirements, we should rally and unite the people of various strata in several forms of political, economic, cultural, social, professional, humanitarian, charitable... organizations suitable for each circle, each social stratum, each locality, and each primary organization. It is necessary to attract broad sections of people who are not party members into various state bodies, socioeconomic organizations, and people's groups. In each organization there should be a definite number of capable and good cadres and party members trusted by the masses to ensure the party's leadership. If the administrative bodies, the Front, and the people's organizations are composed only or mostly of party members, then the party will become bigoted, sectarian, and alienated from the masses. Among the people there is no lack of talented, virtuous persons. It would be a great loss to the country if we fail to rally these persons and to put their talents and virtues to good use.

There is already a common front, namely the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF]. But there are also particular front organizations taking shape in each circle and each mass organization such as the youth, women's, peasants, aged people's organizations, and so forth. The important thing is how to attract really large numbers of people from the various classes, strata of people, nationalities, and religions to make it possible for the shaping of a broad Front.

The Front achieves unity not only by means of organization but also through a movement for joint action

from the lower to the upper levels. The front should not only promote unity at the upper levels but should continue to gear its organizations and operations to each populated area, each village and subward, and each family.

Along with broadening the Front, it is necessary to strengthen the party's leadership and unceasingly consolidate the alliance between the working class and the peasantry and intelligentsia so that the alliance can really serve as the foundation of the Front. The working class should unite and ally itself not only with the peasantry and intelligentsia but also with all other classes and strata of people. If we fail to strengthen the party's leadership and if the workers, peasants, and intellectuals are not strong enough and do not closely ally with one another, it will be impossible for us to consolidate and broaden the bloc of great national unity and for the Front to remain steady and advance in the right direction.

A new problem is that the working class should ally itself and cooperate on a long-term basis with private businessmen for the interests of both sides, in accordance with the law, and also for the common interests of the country. This is a strategic issue, not merely a temporary tactic. To meet the demand for developing the multisectoral economy on a long-term basis, in conformity with the law of social evolution and with the actual situation in our country, and for the purpose of stepping up the development of productive forces, it is imperative that we carry out that task satisfactorily.

III. Consolidating and Broadening the VFF

Achieving great national unity and strengthening the National United Front is a common responsibility of the party, the state, and our army and people, and not only of the VFF, the people's organizations, and the Mass Mobilization Department.

To bring its role into full play, the VFF should clearly define the nature of its organization, its operational principles, and the guidelines for consolidating and broadening the Front.

The VFF is a political alliance and a voluntary union of typical mass organizations and individuals. It is not a mass organization. At present, not a few people, including a number of comrades in party committees at various levels, still consider the VFF a mass organization. This is wrong.

The front operates in accordance with the principles of democratic consultation, equal cooperation, mutual respect, and coordination and unity of action among its members according to a common plan of action. These four principles are closely related to one another, with democratic consultation and coordination and unity of action according to a common plan of action being the two most important principles.

The VFF is not organized and does not operate according to the principle of democratic centralism. In several places it still has been proposed that the VFF be organized from top to bottom in accordance with the principle of democratic centralism and be led and guided as many other people's organizations are. The VFF is not such an organization. It is a horizontal alliance and union but has a hierarchical and cooperative relationship of mutual assistance, with the upper levels guiding the lower ones.

The principle of democratic consultation is a very important one. It is the most basic operational principle of the Front which calls for members to discuss with one another to reach agreement on common policies and common plans of action and to cooperate and unite with one another to implement them.

Equal cooperation and mutual respect are also the operational principles of the Front. In consultations and in seeking coordination and unity of action, we must do our utmost to avoid violating these two principles.

Consolidation and broadening of the VFF must be done in such a way as to ensure that the Front is really an organization that rallies the bloc of great national unity, that correctly performs the Front's functions and tasks, and that reflects the aspirations and will of the people of various strata. The Front's organizations rally the people and, on behalf of the people's groups and other member organizations, put forward necessary issues to the party and state for consideration in accordance with the people's legitimate aspirations. The Front promotes unity of action and joins with the administration in resolving contradictions among the people, in caring for and protecting the people's legitimate interests, and in carrying out the country's common tasks.

Strengthening the Front's organizations should be done in such a way as to attract more typical people from among the various classes, social strata, nationalities, religions..., in particular those who are not party members. The Front's operational apparatus must be compact, of good quality, and capable of attracting large numbers of good specialists so that they will participate in the Front's work in various fields of activities. Some people contend that the Front does not need good specialists, but reality has clearly shown that only when we delve into special subjects do we realize the need for suggestions from large numbers of able people in making laws, socioeconomic policies.... Cadres in charge of the Front at each level must be capable of fulfilling their duties. Front committees have the main responsibility to achieve coordination among all member organizations and with the administration at the same level in mobilizing aged people, typical personalities and intellectuals, industrialists and traders, typical persons among various ethnic groups, religious dignitaries, and overseas Vietnamese. The Front must fully perform its functions and tasks and should not limit itself to taking charge of these people. If the VFF has to assume this task, it is because

at present no other agency is mainly responsible for it; moreover, no agency would be able to handle it single-handed.

State agencies bear great responsibility to the VFF. It is necessary to stress the following two key points:

- The VFF's role, functions, and tasks must be institutionalized by necessary legal documents.
- The administration and VFF at all levels should act in coordination to fully implement the stipulations of the Constitution and laws and should create favorable conditions for the VFF and its member organizations to operate efficiently.

The party is both a member and the leader of the VFF. In its capacity as the leader, the party correctly fulfills its vanguard role. It leads instead of doing the work of the people. It exercises leadership by staying among the people, in the working class, and in the VFF. It cannot stay outside, and absolutely it cannot lead by staying above the people. The party's great strength lies in its close connection with the people. Separated from the people, the party would be devoid of all strength.

The party leads the Front through the party group. This is a very important point. The party group would discuss and examine necessary issues with all other member organizations of the Front in accordance with the principle of democratic consultation to formulate common policies and work programs for the Front. We must hold fast to the principle that the party exercises leadership through the party group in the Front. Party committee representatives may present party positions and policies to the Front and people's organizations directly and petition them with regard to important issues, but they still must hold democratic discussions to reach agreement. "The party cannot demand that the Front recognize its right to leadership; instead it must prove itself to be the most loyal component.... Only by engaging in struggle and in daily work can the party win its leadership position, when broad sections of the masses have recognized the party's correct policies and leadership capability."²

Party committee echelons should appoint a deputy secretary or a standing member of the immediate party committee to serve as secretary of the party group in the Front; but, best of all, a party committee deputy secretary should serve concurrently as party group secretary. Party group secretaries are designated by party committee echelons, but Front chairmen must be selected, recommended, and elected by the Front in accordance with Front Statutes. Persons elected Front chairmen must be those who are selected in a truly democratic manner, who enjoy the people's trust, and who are equal to their tasks; they do not necessarily have to be party committee members or party members.

In leading the Front, the most important thing is to lead the unity of action and the coordination among its member organizations, in particular between the front

and the administration, in order to put their aggregate strength to good account and to satisfactorily carry out the common tasks.

It is necessary to strengthen and renovate the party's leadership over the Front, to bring into play the state's responsibility to the Front, and to overcome the erroneous viewpoints and ideas that the Front is only a symbolic, formal organization, an "ornamental plant." It is necessary to strengthen the Front's organization, improve its work procedures, and broaden its operations, thereby enabling the Front to correctly perform its functions and duties and to operate with practical results in order to satisfactorily implement the party's strategy for achieving great national unity and strengthening the National United Front.

Footnotes

1. Political Bureau Resolution No. 7, dated 17 November 1993, "On Great National Unity and Strengthening the National United Front."

2. Ho Chi Minh, *Complete Works*, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1983, Vol 4, p 115.

To Improve the Quality of Party Committees of All Levels

943E0014C Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Apr 94 pp 36-38

[Article by Nguyen Kim Dinh, high-ranking specialist of the Organization Department of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, the Southern Section, Ho Chi Minh City]

[Text] The Resolution of the Third Plenum of the Seventh Party Central Committee on Party Building dealt at length with the issue of renovating and reorganizing the party, including the question of improving the quality of party committees at all levels. In this article, we would like to add some suggestions to help effectively implement this task.

Party committees at each level are elected by party organization congresses at the same level to manage party work between two party organization congresses. As organizers of the implementation of resolutions of the party and party organizations in the places where they were elected, party committees must typify their party organizations in all respects, especially in knowledge, capability, and quality, and must be capable of contributing to elaborating party organization resolutions and to organizing their implementation.

For a long time, operating in the mechanism of centralized planning and state subsidies had rendered not a few organizations in the political system overstaffed, cumbersome, and passive in their operation. Therefore, when shifting to the market mechanism, in some places some organizations have become sluggish, bureaucratic, and inefficient. For their part, party committees in some places have hardly been able to avoid this situation.

Owing to the idea that party committees should have enough personnel to control all departments, sectors, localities, domains, and circles, and that party committee members should be present everywhere to give "direct and personal guidance"... party committees often have a large staff. When streamlining becomes necessary, it is difficult to carry out reductions in force because all department, sectors, localities, and units think they are important. The quality of the party committees structured in this way also remains low because of the uneven standards and capability of their members and because it is difficult to achieve agreement in their ways of thinking and resolving problems.

In reality, there are party committee members who are incapable of fulfilling their roles and who contribute no significant opinions to the formulation of their party committees' policies and resolutions throughout their terms of office. These comrades, who often fall under the cases where their assignments are mandated by "structural requirements," are of low standards and lack a sufficient knowledge of party and state positions and policies; therefore, they have neither the capability to contribute to the party committee resolution-making process nor the ability to lead and organize party members and the masses to implement resolutions.

With party committees structured according to the leading positions of various sectors, it can be said that nearly all the heads of departments and sectors and service directors are included in party committees of the precinct, district, city, provincial, and municipal levels. Because they have to concentrate daily on their specialized fields of work and on the tasks given them by economic and state management agencies, these comrades can hardly play the role of a party committee member well. It is also for this reason that every time their party committees meet, the only thing these comrades often do is to make situation reports, spin a long yarn about the achievements of the agencies, units, sectors, or localities... under their charge, thus causing meetings to drag on but yield poor results. In a number of party committee conferences that we were able to follow, normally only about 30% to 40% of the opinions expressed by party committee members met the requirements and were of good quality.

If the standards and capability of the majority of party committee members do not measure up to the requirements of their tasks, the decisions made by party committees could easily become voluntaristic and lack a scientific basis. In any unit where key cadres are comrades who have a long service record but limited knowledge and capability, imposition of incorrect ideas may easily happen. In those places where the intellectual level of party committees is uneven, disunity may also easily occur as a result of different ways of thinking and viewpoints. Party committees' low standards also make it impossible to put the contingent of intellectuals' gray matter to good account. We often hear some local leaders complain that scientific cadres sent to work in their localities failed to do their jobs. Through our studies in

some places, we have seen that this is not quite so. In most cases, these scientific cadres were unable to accomplish their tasks because leading cadres in those places had limited knowledge and capability and because their thinking was not on the same level with that of the scientific cadres; for this reason, the leading cadres could not accept and appreciate the scientific cadres' suggestions and were incapable of assigning them suitable work. Some cadres in charge were not only reluctant to meet with scientific cadres but also showed prejudices and sought to have them reassigned to other work. For their part, if the scientific cadres did not show self-restraint, they could easily become disaffected and demoralized. Some comrades who had only a 7th-grade education were put in charge of projects requiring them to manage scores of engineers of different professions; therefore, they could only assign them the tasks of monitoring and supervising the purchase of farm produce, tax collection, or other jobs of a seasonal character. Because they were not given any work requiring the use of the special knowledge they had learned in school, after a short while the majority of these young intellectuals bowed out and parted company with their bosses, although they were badly needed for a great deal of work there. This is true to a principle of the science of organization which says that an organization would be destroyed if the knowledge, capability, and quality of its head are poorer than those of his subordinates.

Another current weakness of a number of party committees is the fact that they still formulate resolutions in the old way. The structure and contents of their resolutions have remained almost unchanged, and many decisions are not suitable for the new conditions. All resolutions are almost identical, with every one of them having similar sections such as characteristics of the situation, objectives and requirements, guidelines and orientation, causes of remaining problems, advantages and difficulties... Their style is verbose, their orientation is ambiguous, and their information is both inadequate and inaccurate. Problems that need to be resolved are often not addressed directly; solutions are often couched in generalities and impracticable. It can be said that with some minor changes in the names of units, names of localities... these resolutions could be attributed to any unit, any locality.

As our country is shifting to the market economy, various laws such as the law of value, the law of supply and demand, the law of competition and money-commodity relationship... have begun to have an effect on all domains of social life. This fact requires that all organizations should have suitable forms, methods, standards, and capability; otherwise, they could hardly avoid being eliminated. To adapt to the new environment, all party committees should be streamlined in accordance with the "small but good" formula, as Lenin put it. In my opinion, the number of people joining the next party committees of all levels should be reduced by about 30%

compared with the maximum number currently prescribed for party committees at all levels. Of course, to do so, we must improve the quality of all party committee members.

There are many ways to reduce the number of party committee members and to improve the quality of party committees of all levels. But, in my opinion, first of all we must build party committees according to a new model, that is, we must structure it according to *bloc*, not according to the leading positions of various sectors as in the past. Specifically, this model is as follows:

1. *Concerning the provincial and municipal level:*

This level could be divided into 10 blocs: the party bloc; the mass organization bloc; the productive sector bloc (industry, communications, post, construction...); the agricultural bloc (agriculture, forestry, and fishery); the circulation and distribution bloc (commerce, services and tourism...); the bloc of financial management agencies (finance, banking, pricing, taxation, planning...); the administration bloc; the internal affairs bloc; the armed forces bloc; and the bloc of precincts, districts, cities, and municipalities directly subordinate to the central government (the bloc of basic units—village and subward—is not to be included in this structure).

2. *Concerning the level of precinct, district, city, and municipality directly subordinate to a province:*

This level could be divided into seven [number as published] blocs: the party bloc; the mass organization bloc; the economic bloc (production, circulation, and services); the management agency bloc; the administrative bloc; the internal affairs bloc; the armed forces bloc; the subward and village basic unit bloc.

3. *Concerning the subward and village level:*

This level could be divided into five blocs: the party bloc; the mass organization bloc; the administrative bloc; the armed forces bloc; and the city street and hamlet bloc.

4. *Concerning the state-run businesses:*

This level could be divided into five blocs: the party bloc (exclusively or concurrently in charge of various businesses); the mass organizations (exclusively or concurrently in charge of various businesses); the management agency bloc; the board of directors; the workshop and store bloc (workers directly engaged in production are not to be included in this structure).

5. *Concerning nonproductive units:*

This level could be divided into five blocs: the party bloc (exclusively or concurrently in charge of various units); the mass organization bloc (exclusively or concurrently in charge of various units); the administrative bloc; the management agency bloc; and the bloc of school departments and classes.

6. *Concerning administrative units:*

This level could be divided into five blocs: the party bloc (exclusively or concurrently in charge of various units); the mass organization bloc (exclusively or concurrently in charge of various units); the administrative bloc; the bloc of specialized departments, bureaus, and sections; and the bloc of offices and administration.

Depending on the size of each unit, the Central Committee will determine the general number of party committee members for each level.

Party committees at all levels will distribute the initially planned number of members; delegates from the various blocs will select their own representatives and recommend them to the party committees at the same level so that these committees will add them up, consider them, prepare a general namelist and submit it to the party organization congress for selection and election. The blocs should recommend more candidates than needed for election to make it easier for the party organization congress to make its choice.

Along with renovating the structure of party committees, we should improve their operational procedures in such a way as to combine the reporting procedures with the system of upper-level party committees periodically working directly with lower-level party committees. This method offers the following advantages:

- It compels lower levels to operate, to correctly carry out the tasks required, to ensure that their work is done at the pace planned, and to receive the information they need to work with the upper-level leadership.
- It enables upper levels to receive the information they need in a timely and uniform manner for use in the process of exercising leadership.
- It enables lower levels' shortcomings and deviations to be detected and rectified in a timely manner, thereby preventing serious losses and errors.
- It creates favorable conditions for new factors to be detected, brought into play, and multiplied.
- It permits the upper-level leadership to maintain close contact with and understand lower-level cadres, therefore to assign and use them more rationally.

In the conditions of rudimentary means of communications and in the absence of a microcomputer system linking the upper levels with the grassroots, this is an optimal work method. In reality, any party committee that used this method has improved the effectiveness of its leadership. The elaboration of party committees' resolutions should be improved to reflect the work of an executive organ, that is, to concretize and suit party lines and resolutions to one's own level to make them realizable. With regard to the part of these resolutions relating to the *socioeconomic* domain, since it still have to go through the state agencies at various levels which organize the implementation of resolutions, party committees need only to determine the guidelines for and targets of development; the state agencies at the same level would concretize such guidelines and targets into socioeconomic plans and organize their implementation. As

for the part relating to *party building*, it must be worked out directly by the party organizations concerned; for this reason, specific norms and solutions must be formulated, the tasks of party members and party organizations must be quantified, and a realistic basis for their implementation must be ensured. Party committees should improve the contents of their decisions by making them succinct, trimming the extraneous portions, and directly addressing issues that need to be dealt with. Unlike the resolutions of the party Central Committee, those of lower-level party committees can not stop at the direction-setting level; instead, they must have a suitable direction-setting character and at the same time be concrete and practicable.

Along with renovating the structure of party committees, we should quantify the standards of party committee members of each level to create proper conditions for improving the quality of party committees. For example: provincial- and municipal-level party committee members should definitely have a college-level education and other knowledge in order to fulfill their duties. At present, a number of northern provinces, municipalities, precincts, and districts have stipulated that party committee members must have a college-level education (party committee members in some provinces such as Quang Ninh, Thai Binh... have attained this level) and advanced theoretical knowledge, must have received training in economic management and state management, and must know at least one foreign language. For their part, southern provinces and municipalities are making an effort to ensure that party committee members have at least a level-3 education and advanced theoretical knowledge and have attended economic and state management classes. Many state-run businesses and nonproductive units have stipulated that party chapter committee and party committee members must have a college-level education and intermediate- or higher-level theoretical knowledge, must be conversant with economic management and training and scientific education management, must know at least one foreign language, and so forth.

Generally speaking, any party committee that has a quantified standard suitable for its tasks, that is restructured *according to bloc*, that has renovated its operational methods as required, and that can adapt to the market mechanism will be capable of successfully leading the implementation of the party's renovation line and applying its resolutions to life.

Effect of Broadening Democracy in the Transition to Market Economy in the Countryside

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[Article by Tran Lan Huong, lecturer at the Press Sub-institute, Ho Chi Minh National Political Institute]

[Text] Economic renovation must go hand in glove with gradual political renovation along the line of broadening

democracy because democracy is not only a product of economic development but also a prime moving force promoting economic development. In this article, by raising the issue this way, I would like to present an outline of the democracy issue against the rural backdrop of the Bac Bo delta today along the line of broadening democracy at all the *three* levels: enhancing the independence of the peasant household, promoting the self-management of the village and hamlet, and strengthening the legal authority of the state.

I. Enhancing the independence of the household and the question of rural economic growth

As most researchers of rural affairs have observed and as I myself see it, social differentiation in the northern countryside is currently on the rise¹. Results of the surveys of some villages in Ha Bac and Quang Ninh in 1992 and 1993 showed that 57.6%, 79.3%, and 75.3% of the people polled in Van Mon Village (Ha Bac), Tam Son Village (Ha Bac), and Xuan Son Village (Quang Ninh) respectively thought that their household economies had grown. Those households having enough to live on or being in easier circumstances have grown more vigorously than those still lacking food and living in poverty. The social structure in the countryside is changing, gradually giving rise to a class of middle peasants. This change is taking place under the effect of a series of factors, of which *the first* to be taken into consideration is that *the rural household is granted the right to independence in production and business*.

When asked about the causes of their economic growth, 95% of the people in Van Mon (1992) maintained that their household economies had improved because *they themselves* knew how to seize advantageous positions in the market; 94.7% of the people in Tam Son (1993) ascribed their improved economic situation to *their personal dynamism*; and 89% of the people in Xuan Son (1993) affirmed that their improved household economies resulted from their ability to make their *own* calculations in production activities. Thus, it can be said that the *independence* factor (of the individual and the peasant household) is the *primary* cause of household economic development. The abolition of the bureaucratic administrative mechanism of management and the shift to the market mechanism have caused peasants to feel greater interest in labor, to work hard to resolve difficulties, and to show boldness in work and thought. In the past, if egalitarianism made peasants indifferent to labor, then today we can see from the aforementioned figures that the sense of taking the initiative and seizing the opportunity to enrich oneself has increased in the peasant.

In the rural areas, the implementation of a series of new policies on land and farm produce market has created proper conditions for peasant households to become independent economic units. In the past, when not yet granted the right to use farm land, peasants were always passive; they would grow rice, corn, or whatever the villages asked them to, even though the soil was not

suitable; therefore, these peasant would eventually reaped poor harvests. Nowadays, on the plot allocated to it under contract, each peasant household is an independent economic unit which makes its own decisions in production and business. The policy of allocating land under contract and granting peasants the right to use it has precisely responded to their "land to the tiller" aspiration. In Van Mon, 86.3% of the people were satisfied with land allocation; in Tam Son, 84% of the people were happy with the land allocated to them. Thus, a sense of satisfaction is prevailing in the rural society. In such a situation, the people no longer "only wish to have *freedom*" but also want to reach the state of *being free* to strongly push forward production and business.

Cooperative member households' improved capacity for independence in production is reflected in increases in the sale and renting of the tools of production. The rural areas' purchasing power for small mechanical tools of production has now increased. In Van Mon, 12% of the local households have threshers; 2.3% have mills; 2.3% have small mechanical pumps; and 0.5% have pickup trucks. As for Tam Son, 64% of the households there have threshers; 4.7% have mills; and 4% have mechanical pumps.

As far as the level of *independence* in production is concerned, destitute and food-lacking families are those which enjoy the least independence, a condition reflected in the fact that none of such families owns one of the four kinds of farm implements mentioned above. Also because of this condition that destitute and food-lacking families are the most *passive* and have to rent farm implements. Specifically, in Van Mon, the percentage of the various categories of households that have "to rent farm implements" is as follows: *destitute* households, 80%; *food-lacking* households, 77.4%; *having-enough-to-eat* households, 45.7%; *well-to-do* households, 24%; and *wealthy* households, 14.3%.

When peasants are free to circulate farm produce, household economy can independently participate in the produce market. In Van Mon, only a small group of peasants (1.7%) sell their products to the state while the overwhelming majority of the population sell the products of their labor to the private sector. Specifically, 34.7% sell to residents in the same villages; 16% sell to people outside their villages; and 34.7% sell to traders. A great deal of produce grown in Van Mon is collected for sale in other provinces, in Hanoi, and even at the Sino-Vietnamese border. This is a fact worth noting in order to work out suitable policies.

Another indicator confirming the increase in household economic independence is the increase in the hiring of workers and in the numbers of hired workers. The people are now independent with regard to labor power and free to buy and sell labor power, and this condition has resulted in the shaping of on-the-spot labor markets in the rural areas. In Tam Son, 26% of the local households hired workers, and 68% of the people polled said they had worked as hired hands. In Van Mon, 16.3% of the

local households hired workers and helpers, and 15.3% worked as hired hands to supplement their income. In this village, Man Xa Hamlet, which has done best economically, is also a hamlet with the highest percentage of households hiring workers (34.1%) and of people working as hired hands (24.2%). Thus, the more economic development a place enjoys, the more goods and labor power are exchanged there. For this reason, it is necessary to enact a labor law at an early date to control and regulate the buying and selling of labor power.

A consequence of corporeal independence and of the freedom to participate in various kinds of markets has been an increase in people's movements in societal space. Of the Van Mon residents interviewed, 97.7% had once gone outside their village; 15.3% had visited other districts; 80.7% had travelled to other provinces; and 2% had made overseas trips. The frequency of movement is: once a day, 90%; once a week, 16%; once a month, 36%; and once a year, 33.7%. This proves that, nowadays, in the countryside, the tradition of the village structure being hermetically sealed in an autarkic economic system has been broken, and that an open market has been created between various villages and regions of the country.

In short, we can clearly see that the positive effect of economic renovation has helped enhance the independence of rural households and promote the growth of the household and rural economies in general.

II. Promoting the self-management of villages and hamlets and the question of stepping up goods production and trading

Within the framework of the current administrative machinery, the political system and power structure and their operation in the rural areas of the Bac Bo delta still use the village (usually a merger of the traditional hamlets) as the basic unit of administrative management. Since 1945 up to now, after two wars of resistance, after land reforms, and after a cooperativization movement lasting more than 20 years, in reality the traditional hamlet has been incorporated into the village administrative framework and has gradually lost its traditional self-management character. To cure this chronic malady caused by the blockage of the decision-making mechanism, it is necessary to apply the principle of devolving managing authority once again to make management more rational by transferring a significant amount of decisionmaking authority and heavy workload from the currently overburdened village level to the hamlet level. To restore the self-management of the traditional hamlet which was blotted out by the cooperatives in the times of state subsidies, a contingent of hamlet chiefs is being added to the village administration in accordance with its current model of organization and operation. The reform of the village administrative structure along the line of broadening the people's self-management will not only permit the achievement of social stability but will also ensure the dynamism of citizens and help promote

up goods production and trading in keeping with the market economic mechanism.

The shaping of the state administrative system, the improvement of the administrative apparatus at the hamlet level, the elections and selection of hamlet chiefs, and the relatively effective activities of the newly elected hamlet chiefs have had the positive effect of helping the administration in guiding production and business operations in accordance with the self-management form. In Van Mon, 80% of the people polled believed that the position of hamlet chief is necessary. At present, a group of people (27.7%) suggests unifying the two positions of hamlet chief and cooperative director to give the hamlet chief the authority to manage all the socioeconomic work of the hamlet. In-depth interviews and further studies have revealed that most members of this group do not advocate dissolving the cooperatives and that they only want to concentrate all the right of a locality to self-management in a sole representative, namely the hamlet chief. The various constituent powers (such as the powers of economic management, administrative management, public order and security management, cultural management, and so forth) will be vested in the deputy hamlet chiefs or members of the hamlet administrative council. This arrangement is similar to the traditional organization of village and hamlet self-management in the Vietnamese countryside in the old days.

What do citizens need from their hamlet chief? First of all, he must be a local resident (according to 68% of the respondents) and must be directly recommended and elected by the people by secret ballot (according to 76% of the respondents). A hamlet chief must be good at doing economic work (22.3% of the respondents) and, naturally, must be a virtuous man (56.3% of the respondent) and have other fine qualifications. Here we see a tendency to enhance the direct representative character of the hamlet chief and to give prominence to the capability to enrich oneself. However, true to their traditional respect for righteousness and talent, the rural people prefer the formula combining the capability to enrich oneself with good virtues, and freedom and democracy with order, discipline, and the common standards of the hamlet community.

The contingent of hamlet chiefs has successfully relayed the voice of citizens to the village administration; and before making each decision, the village administration has had to take this voice into consideration. With the introduction of the hamlet-chief mechanism, the inefficiency of the village administration is being overcome. The village no longer has to take on more work than it can handle; instead, it let the hamlet resolve its own affairs. We can see this effectiveness when asking people "where they would go to lodge their complaints" when their interests are infringed upon. A total of 39% of the respondents said they would go to the hamlet administration and 47.3% declared they would go to the village administration. Thus, up to 86.3% of the respondents affirmed the direct effectiveness of the village and

hamlet administrations (only 27.7% said they would go to higher echelons). To further enhance this effectiveness, we should pay attention to improving the knowledge of village and hamlet cadres. Hamlet and village administrations and communities have also paid attention to thwarting the seamy side of the market mechanism and keeping social evils from spreading and preventing the people from earning their living with peace of mind and stepping up production and business activities. In Van Mon, when asked about "the obstacles encountered in production and business operations," only 0.3% of the respondents complained about the state of public order and security in their village and hamlet; 0.3% deplored the misappropriation of each other's capital; and 0.3% grumbled about land disputes. This shows the enhancement of democracy through direct representation at the hamlet level, a fact that has helped create favorable conditions for the people to step up production and business activities.

III. Strengthening the law-governed state of the people, by the people, and for the people, and the question of strongly shifting to market economy

At present, what the rural people want the most is *freedom* "to pursue happiness," but this does not mean that they do not need help from the cooperatives and the state. Surveys have shown that the majority of peasants still need the cooperatives' help in services such as water conservancy (83%), crop protection (17.3%), soil preparation (9.3%).... At present, the rural people want not only to enhance direct democracy (that is, enhance personal freedom and the hamlet's self-management) but also to increase the strength of the law-governed state in general and to improve the effectiveness of economic laws in particular.

To shift to the market mechanism also means to shape a mechanism for implementing democracy. Moreover, broadening democracy will have the effect of a prime moving force in promoting economic development. Therefore, to overcome difficulties and obstacles in broadening democracy in economy and politics is to surmount part of the difficulties and obstacles in the transition to the market mechanism.

Generally speaking, at present, the transition to the market mechanism in the countryside of the Bac Bo delta remains at a very low level. We can cite Van Mon, a fairly well-developed village in the rural Bac Bo delta, as an example. There, only 1.3% of the local households *have shifted to the market mechanism*, 32.3% *have not shifted yet*, and 64% *are shifting*. The main cause of this state of affairs is that in most cases the local people still have to *rely on their own resources* in overcoming the obstacles encountered in the transition to the new mechanism because they have received no help from the collective economy and the state.

There are numerous difficulties and obstacles, the most significant being high taxes, capital shortages, lack of means, product backlog.... Thus, generally speaking, the

greatest difficulty for the rural people and society at present is that they have not yet been able to achieve market superiority in competition. The vicious circle of poverty and backwardness that has prevailed throughout the history of rural society has created too low a starting point, that is, an extremely disadvantageous position in the market mechanism.

Moreover, the market in the rural Bac Bo delta, already seriously weakened by the traditional autarkic agriculture confined within the boundaries of villages and hamlets, has also been hamstrung by the model of centralized, subsidy-based economic management for decades on end. For this reason, it is extremely difficult to reshape this market now. Many "wild" factors of the market worry the people, preventing them from earning their living with peace of mind. As we shift to the market mechanism, its seamy side along with negative phenomena and social evils (such as gambling, alcoholism, extravagant funeral ceremonies and wedding parties, bribery, corruption, smuggling, superstition, counterfeiting...) has become increasingly prevalent. To counter these negative practices and social evils, the people need really strict and clear "village's rules" and "state's laws." The state should use the law as the standard and rely on public consent to supplement it. Only in this way will it be able to thwart the aforementioned seamy side of the market mechanism.

The rural people's current wish is that the state would further renovate its macrocosmic policy to help them adapt to the market mechanism taking shape in the countryside. It is also the ardent aspiration of various social groups that the state would renovate the national economic system and economic policy more expeditiously and more drastically according to the market mechanism. This is because they realize that microcosmic dynamism is really effective only when macrocosmic regulation by the state is rational in all area and regional, rural and urban, domestic and foreign markets. At present, it is the people's wish that the party and state would adopt a system of policies aimed at removing the old management mechanism in a more energetic manner to create a moving force for development, to release productive forces, and to exploit all creative potential among the people.

The real state of the democratic mechanism in the countryside and the trend toward changing it can be seen fairly clearly in the typical people polled in various sociological surveys and investigations. To renovate that mechanism is essentially to broaden freedom and democracy in such a way as to accommodate the demand for shifting to market economy. At present the renovation of the political system is proceeding precisely in that direction thanks to a combination of *two* processes: *one the one hand*, broadening various forms of freedom and direct democracy (such as enhancing the household's right to independence and the hamlet's and village's right to self-management; *one the other*, enhancing freedom and democracy through the representative system, that is, strengthening the law-governed state

according to the socialist orientation. It is this combined solution that is creating *new* moving forces—a direct moving force originating from microcosmic dynamism and an *aggregate* moving force based on national unity—to help ensure a smooth transition to modern market economy.

Footnote

1. See "Social Stratification in the Northern Countryside," TAP CHI CONG SAN, No. 11, Nov 93.

Meeting of TAP CHI CONG SAN Contributors and Readers in the Southern Region

943E0014E Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Apr 94 p 49

[Text] Following the get-together of contributors in the northern region held in Hanoi early this year, the editorial staff of TAP CHI CONG SAN held a get-together of contributors in the southern region in Hanoi on 1 March 1994.

In attendance were Comrades Vo Tran Chi, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee; Le Thanh Nhan, member of the Party Central Committee and deputy director of the Ideology and Culture Department of the Party Central Committee; Tran Trong Tan, member of the Party Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee; Phan Van Trang, secretary of the Dong Nai Provincial Party Committee; and Tran Van Tu, member of the Standing Committee and director of the Propaganda and Education Department of the Can Tho Provincial Party Committee. Also on hand were representatives of the propaganda and education departments of the Provinces of Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Long An... and numerous professors, doctors, theoretical researchers, socioeconomic and cultural managers, journalists, writers... who are TAP CHI CONG SAN contributors. A number of provincial party committee representatives and individuals who were unable to attend sent letters to the meeting.

Some contributors expressed their views after hearing Comrade Nguyen Phu Trong, member of the Party Central Committee and TAP CHI CONG SAN editor in chief, made a brief report on some activities of the journal in 1993 and on the orientation of its editorial work in 1994.

All the speakers agreed with the comrade editor in chief's appraisals and stressed: In 1993 TAP CHI CONG SAN made numerous efforts and achieved notable progress, enhancing its theoretical, reality-recapitulating, and militant character. In particular, the journal timely, concentratedly, and systematically propagandized resolutions of the Party Central Committee, the Political Bureau, and the Secretariat, and major positions and policies of the party and state. It carried many good articles to struggle against erroneous viewpoints and to defend Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh thought, and the

party's correct line. It promptly criticized erroneous lines of reasoning concerning human rights, culture, arts and literature, and publishing. It also exposed the "peaceful evolution" schemes of hostile forces to cause the Vietnamese revolution to deviate from its direction. The journal's social effect grew perceptibly. Circulation through the post kept rising.

The journal's limitations were that the theoretical quality and the scientific information content of a number of articles were still low; the general character of some reviews of practice was not high enough; renovation of the style of writing was slow; and some articles were not convincing.

In 1994, to continue developing the previous years' results, in its editorial orientation TAP CHI CONG SAN should delve more deeply into theoretical issues of Marxism-Leninism, Ho Chi Minh thought, theoretical issues of socialism, and the road to socialism in our country. At the same time, the journal should attach greater importance to reviews of practice in the renovation undertaking, articles on scientific research, and articles struggling against and criticizing wrong viewpoints and rectifying incorrect perceptions....

Concerning specific subjects, some comrades suggested that the journal should add articles about urban management, achievements of the world scientific and technical revolution, the law-governed state, new economic systems, other countries' experience in economic management, mass mobilization work, women cadres-related work.... The journal should strive to make in-depth analyses of and interpret the theoretical foundations and scientific bases of our party's and state's lines and policies.

TAP CHI CONG SAN should continue to renovate its form, should carry several short articles written in a more lively, attractive style, and should offer a greater variety of "dishes." It can feature some more scientific research papers from various sociological programs. It should also think of ways to associate and "join" with a number of other newspapers and journals to improve the quality and timeliness of its copy. It should strive to rejuvenate both its contingent of contributors and its readership.

Many comrades expressed their belief that, as a major party journal enjoying high prestige in the theoretical political and scientific fields and as indispensable "bed-side reading material" for numerous readers, in particular political theoretical workers and teachers of politics, in the coming days TAP CHI CONG SAN will certainly advance even more strongly and will carry out even more satisfactorily the tasks assigned by the Party Central Committee, thereby proving itself worthy of its readers' confidence and love. Recent realities have shown that although the royalties paid by the journal to its contributors have not been as high as those offered by a number of other periodicals, many professors and doctors, many prestigious writers, and many scientists and writers have

continued to write for the party's journal. This is indeed a "plus sign," a positive sign the significance of which transcends the normal relationship between contributors and a journal's editorial office.

Symposium on Culture in Political Activities

943E0014F Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in
Vietnamese Apr 94 p 62

[Article by Pham Duy Duc, M.A.]

[Text] Recently, at the Ho Chi Minh National Political Institute, the Socialist Culture Department held a symposium on the subject of *Culture in Political Activities*. Delegates from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ho Chi Minh National Political Publishing House, and TAP CHI CONG SAN attended.

1. Before analyzing a number of basic themes in depth, participants heard a report by Professor Tran Van Binh entitled "Culture in Political Activities." Touching upon the concept of "culture," the report held that to date, there still have many different interpretations of the concept of "culture." Some people consider "culture" a "specialized activity of a sector" (of the Culture and Information Ministry). Others identify "culture" with "educational standard"... Such interpretations have often resulted in the role of culture in life being belittled, separated from or even opposed to the activities aimed at bringing into play people's creative potential. As far as its *origin* is concerned, culture means *sowing and planting*. From sowing and planting, the meaning has changed into *educating*. In its modern meaning, culture is linked with the True, the Good, and the Beautiful, which are the fundamental values—including conscience, intelligence, the sense of responsibility, the sense of community, faith, love, and so forth—aimed at heightening human dignity.

In short, culture is a combination of all spiritual values created by man; it is the spiritual foundation of each man as well as all society... The cultural environment has a direct effect on the formation of personality and the development of all creative powers and the capacity for relationship between man and man and between man and nature.

2. Concerning culture and President Ho Chi Minh's political work

Several researchers at the conference pointed out that Ho Chi Minh thought originated from three sources: 1. Marxism-Leninism; 2. The nation's lofty traditional thoughts; 3. The quintessence of contemporary western bourgeois revolutions, of the occidental philosophy, and

of a number of democratic revolutionaries of the world. It was thanks to these values that Ho Chi Minh had effectively resolved the relationships between the East and the West, between national and international issues, between action and poetry, between tradition and revolution, and between reason and sentiment.

Three qualities stood out in Ho Chi Minh: *consistency, humanity, and modesty*. These are qualities of political activists and, at the same time, cultural values of man.... Ho Chi Minh's political activities could be summed up in a general remark: He always proceeded from the sense of wholeheartedly serving the people with his immense erudition, experience, and talent and, at the same time, with devotion and integrity. This is why he had won the people's respect and gratitude.

For Ho Chi Minh as well as Nguyen Trai and Le Thanh Tong..., culture had become a kind of spiritual fuel for the development and perfection of personality and for political and social activities. For Ho Chi Minh in particular, culture had really become a moving force and an objective of political activities. This is because Ho Chi Minh's politics was that of the people, by the people, and for the people, a politics with the ultimate goal of achieving national development and happiness for each man. This is a great lesson of practical significance to our party's political leadership in its current renovation undertaking.

3. Concerning culture in the party's political leadership

Participants unanimously affirmed: Culture in the party's political leadership must take in the humanist tradition of the national political leadership and the scientific achievements of our time. Culture in the party's political leadership is its intellectual, democratic, and humanist dimensions embodied in the political viewpoints, political techniques, and political actions of party organizations, and reflected in the deployment and use of party cadres. Participants also affirmed that putting to good account the role of culture in the party's leadership is not only necessary at the strategic and tactical levels but must also be thoroughly understood at the grass-roots and executive levels. This must be realized in foreign relations and party building as well as in the acculturation of the state machinery.

The conference also dealt with various cultural measures aimed at increasing the party's strength in its current political leadership. However, the conference also maintained that this is a new issue consisting of several elements such as party culture, political culture, the cultural criteria of political activities, and so forth, which should be studied further.

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